

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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FREEMASONRY IN OHIO.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio, if not one of the oldest, is certainly one of the strongest and most influential of the Grand Lodges in the United States of North America. The number of subscribing members on its lodge rolls on the 31st August, 1896, was 40,839, while the number of active lodges on the 24th October following was 497. According to the Grand Treasurer's account for the past year, the total income to the 15th October last, including a balance of 26,186 dollars brought forward from the previous account, was 53,412 dollars, while the expenditure was 28,120 dollars. Such a body, which comprises upwards of 40,000 members distributed among nearly 500 lodges, and whose annual statements of account show balances in hand of £5000 and upwards in English money, must be a power in Masonry, not only in the United States, but throughout the civilised world, and the annual Reports of its Proceedings are sure to contain, in addition to what is locally interesting, a considerable amount of what is often found to be most valuable information. Even if we take account only of those voluminous Reports on Foreign Correspondence, which are almost invariably appended to the record of what is done at the annual Communication, there will herein be found enough, in the way of statistical and other matter, to satisfy the craving for knowledge of the hungriest of Masonic students, while there is rarely a Grand Master's Annual Address contained in these Proceedings which does not throw light on the usages and customs which are peculiar to the jurisdiction itself, or, which, though they are almost in universal application among Masons of all countries, are yet interpreted in a different sense from other Masonic bodies, by the G. Lodge of that jurisdiction. In the case of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, with a copy of whose Proceedings for last year we have been favoured, Bro. W. B. MELISH, who was then M.W.G. Master, delivered an address which fills no less than 53 pages, and though it must have taxed his vocal powers to read it and the patience of his audience while giving it the respectful hearing it deserves, and no doubt received, there is also, we rejoice to say, much in it that must have repaid both the distinguished brother who compiled it and the brethren to whom it was addressed, in the one case for his exertions, and in the latter for their patience. Thus, as regards the Ohio Masonic Home, we learn that the total amount of subscriptions from all sources

since its establishment amounted at the last return to close on 163,000 dollars, of which, however, some 10,500 dollars remained still unpaid. The payments to date amounted to, say, 151,000 dollars, and the amounts still due and payable to some 14,000 dollars, the assets being about 1800 dollars, while the unpaid subscriptions were estimated to realise not more than 5000 dollars, "the universal business depression throughout the country" being set down as accountable for these shortcomings on the part of brethren whose subscriptions had been promised in perfect good faith. However, what with the nearly 8000 dollars "set aside by the legislation of last year," together with the donations recently made by the chapters of Ohio and the Grand Commandery, there was sufficient according to Grand Master MELISH's statement, to place the Home "entirely out of debt" on the 16th November last, when the Ohio brethren found themselves in possession of "a magnificent piece of property of a total cost of over two hundred thousand dollars," and with no other responsibility resting upon them than that of turning it to practical account by supplying it with such an income arising out of their annual donations and subscriptions as will suffice to enable it to meet the claims of indigent brethren, their widows, and orphans upon its resources. We are also delighted beyond measure to find Bro. MELISH presenting the question of "physical qualifications" so reasonably and with so much sound common sense. The Old Charge to the effect that a Master should take no apprentice unless he was "a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body," was, he says, "a wholesome regulation for the employment of apprentices in operative Masonry," and was doubtless incorporated in the Ancient Charges as published by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723, "with a desire to keep up, as far as possible, the connection between the Operative and the Speculative Masonry." But it is his opinion that it should be "taken no more literally than other parts of the Ancient Charges: such as 'All Masons shall work honestly on working days that they may live creditably on holy days,' &c.; or 'All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the work is finished.'" His argument is that "if the Ancient Charges are still in force, they should be observed in their entirety," otherwise, any custom or observance for which there is no longer "any possible or conceivable use," but which may be, and often is, "injurious to the Fraternity," ought to cease. Bro. MELISH cites two cases within his own knowledge, one being that of a man who was rejected "because he had an artificial foot, a fact which no one in daily contact with the candidate knew until he told it." In the other case, "a man of the highest standing was refused because he had a stiff knee." And to further show the absurdity of retaining this Ancient Charge, Bro. MELISH went on to point out that it applies only to Entered Apprentices, and that while "a man of high social standing" with a stiff knee must not be made an Entered Apprentice, a one-legged or one-armed Entered Apprentice may be made a Master Mason. As regards another decision that a man who "is deficient in any of his limbs or senses cannot be made a Mason," he remarks "This ought to bar out the near-sighted, the partially deaf, &c., as all are deficient in some one of their senses," and points out that according to another decision "a one-eyed man is not deficient in any of his senses," and is accordingly admitted. He then proceeds to ask "which part of a man hears an orphan's cries or a widow's appeal, or is touched by the distress of the poor?"

If it be his stiff knees or his missing fingers, then legislate for legs and hands. If it is his head and his heart and not his shape, let us care for them and look to acts, words, moral uprightness, and mental perfection, instead of toes, fingers, and flexible joints." We thank thee, Bro. MELISH, for this exhibition of sound common sense.

One other extract from the address and we have done. The Grand Lodge has recently expended some 5000 dollars on the compilation by a duly appointed Committee of a newly-published Code of Laws, with the result, Bro. MELISH tells us, that it "contains 511 Decisions, 41 Resolutions, 92 Sections of a Code, 16 Rules of Order, 29 By-Laws, 17 Articles of the Constitution, and 6 divisions of the Ancient Charges—a total of only seven hundred and twelve items of law." The mere enumeration of these items under their several heads of Decisions, Resolutions, Orders, &c., is enough to afflict the student of Masonic law with a perpetual headache, and when Bro. MELISH tells us that the code now contains fully "one hundred Decisions, which are simply a re-statement of previous Decisions; and which are really explanations of former Decisions;" that "some laws which were considered landmarks are no longer in the Code, but opposite the number is the word 'obsolete;'" and that there are "at least 50 Decisions which are the opposite of 50 others," the situation of the would-be student becomes appalling and we look upon him as a possible candidate for Bedlam rather than as one likely to become a learned exponent of the laws of our Society in Ohio.

AN HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

On Saturday, the 19th ultimo, the worthy, worshipful, and warranted Lodge Philadelphia, which ranks as No. 72 on the register of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, celebrated the centenary of its constitution, and, as is customary on such auspicious occasions, an historical Address, in which the career of the lodge was traced, was delivered by Bro. S. KINGSTON MCCAY, P.M., in the presence of a very large and influential assemblage of members and visitors, among the latter being the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, the S.G. Warden, the Grand Secretary, Past Grand Master CONRAD B. DAY, and many other Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge. What are known in America as the Centennial Exercises included an address from the Grand Master on the importance of the occasion and a history of the lodge from its consecration by the brother already named, and it is of the latter that we are desirous of laying before our readers such a report as will enable them to form an idea of what this Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, has accomplished for the general good of Freemasonry. Those who may wish to read it in full will find it reproduced in the columns of the *Philadelphia Keystone*, of the 23rd ult.; while we are fortunate enough to have been courteously favoured by Bro. RICHARD MUCKLE with a copy in pamphlet form. The lodge dates from a very interesting period in the history of the United States, just when Bro. General GEORGE WASHINGTON had announced his intention of retiring into private life, the day on which the warrant of the Lodge was petitioned for and granted being the day on which the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held its annual communication, that is to say, the 27th December (St. John the Evangelist's Day) 1796, when, after Bro. WILLIAM MOORE SMITH had been installed Grand Master, and certain other brethren as Grand Officers for the ensuing year, an address was voted by Grand Lodge to Bro. GEORGE WASHINGTON, in which the fervent hopes of the brethren were expressed that he might be spared for many years and enjoy all the happiness which this world affords. When this was over, the petition of a number of brethren who had severed their connection with Lodge Concordia, No. 67, and praying for a warrant of constitution as Philadelphia, No. 72, was presented and granted, the principal officers designated in the warrant being Bro. ANDREW BAUM, W.M.; GEORGE WILLIG, S.W.; and CHRISTIAN SCHITZ, J.W. The warrant was there and then issued under the seal of Grand Lodge, attested by Bro. GEORGE BAKER, G. Sec., and countersigned by Bro. JOHN MCELWEE, G. Treas. Unfortunately, the minutes of the lodge, from 1797 to 1820 were destroyed by the great fire which consumed the Masonic Hall, Chestnut-street,

Philadelphia, in 1819, the lodge being one of those which met and kept its archives in that building. Bro. MCCAY, however, has been successful in discovering from other sources of information that the lodge was consecrated on the 14th January, 1797. Further investigations on the part of the historian show that the lodge was represented at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, held on March 6th, 1797, and subsequently at the various Quarterly, Annual, and Special Meetings of the same G. Lodge. In 1802, a Bro. WILLIAM NELSON, one of its members, was commissioned to raise subscriptions with which to purchase a building to serve as a Hall for the use of Grand Lodge, and the lodge was represented at the dedication of the new Hall in Filbert-street, on the 27th December of the same year. Subsequently, it held its meetings in the Hall at Chestnut-st., the site of which was purchased in 1807, the Hall itself being opened for Masonic purposes in 1811, and here it remained until 1819, when occurred the disastrous fire already referred to. After a brief interval, in which the lodge resumed its meetings in the Filbert-street Hall—pulled down in January, 1880—it returned to the Chestnut-street Hall, which had been rebuilt, and here it remained until the present magnificent Hall was opened in the autumn of 1873. Bro. MCCAY further tells us that a Grand Visitation was made to the lodge on the 14th October, 1815, and again on the 8th September, 1823, by Grand Master RANDALL, on which occasion the Grand Secretary severely criticised the manner in which the minutes were kept and the working. In 1831, Grand Master MICHAEL NISBET, father of the late distinguished Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania, paid the lodge its third Grand Visitation, when the Grand Secretary's report was the very reverse of that of eight years previously, and was in every respect most complimentary. During the great Anti-Masonic furore in the United States from 1828 to 1836, the lodge, notwithstanding that it was by no means in clover, held bravely on its course, and when that exciting period had passed, it speedily recovered from its depressed condition, and became a very tower of strength to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Moreover—and this speaks well for the class of men who were enrolled as its members—it has furnished no less than four Grand Masters—Bros. CORNELIUS STEVENSON, WILLIAM BARGER, HENRY M. PHILLIPS, and ALFRED B. POTTER—to Pennsylvania, while among its other prominent members are numbered Bro. JAMES H. WINDRIM, architect of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, and Bro. HENRY J. WHITE, one of the members of the Building Committee. In respect of Benevolent and other Funds, it is well circumstanced, and altogether ranks as one of the most distinguished lodges on the roll of Pennsylvania, and we trust that in every respect its future career may prove worthy of its successful past.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF KENT.

The above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge—which was postponed owing to the death of the late Archbishop of Canterbury—took place on Thursday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Temple, St. Peter's-street, Canterbury, for the installation of the new Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, who was appointed by the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, to fill the place of the late Bro. Rev. T. W. Robinson.

Bro. the Earl of Euston, assisted by Provincial Grand Officers, performed the ceremony in a very impressive manner, and the following Prov. Grand Officers were appointed:

Bro. F. Hughes Hallett, 129, 378, G.D. Eng.	...	D.P.G.M.
" W. J. Duncan Best, M.D., 192	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Sibert Saunders, 262	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" John W. Court, 390	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Frank W. Williams, 322	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" H. F. Greig, 309	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. A. W. N. Deacon, 322	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Herbert Black, 69	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Hugh M. Gordon, 294	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" J. G. Podevin, 162, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" S. J. Brice, jun., 237	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" O. H. Smith, 266	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" George F. Baker, 255	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Robert Derry, 6	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Henry C. Jones, 262	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Charles J. Clapham, 44	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Lawrence Salt, 69	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Frederick A. Clarke, 152	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Alfred T. Dealer, 416	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Wm. H. Burney, 332	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" James Farrier, 226	...	} Prov. G. Stewards.
" William Judd, 322	...	
" Samuel R. Wilson, 129	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" Joseph Oram, 237	...	

The usual banquet was subsequently held at the Royal Fountain Hotel.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 4th inst. The Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, Grand Master Mason, occupied the throne, and was supported by Bros. J. H. C. Hozier, jun., of Mauldslee, R.W. Substitute Grand Master; Bros. Jas. Berry, Durdee; Hugh R. Wallace, Ayr; and a large number of other distinguished brethren. The Wardens' chairs were filled by Bro. Lord Rosslyn, Senior Grand Warden, and Major F. W. Allan, Junior Grand Warden. There was a large attendance of representatives.

The minutes of last quarterly communication were only carried after considerable discussion. The new business brought before Grand Lodge included recommendations that charters be granted to the following new lodges: Guildford, Western Australia; Clifton, Queensland; Miles, Queensland; Delta Ayr, Queensland; and the restoration to the roll of Lodge Sanguhar Kilwinning, No. 194. A peculiar feature of the agenda paper was the large number of Provincial Grand Masters' Commissions that had to be dealt with. The resignations accepted were of Bros. A. Johnstone Douglas, P.G.M. Dumfriesshire; J. H. Balfour Melville, P.G.M. Fife and Kinross; Sheriff G. H. M. Thoms, P.G.M. Caithness, Orkney and Zetland; and J. M. Martin, P.G.M. Dumbartonshire. Renewed Commissions were granted to Bro. J. H. C. Hozier, the younger, of



LORD SALTOUN, GRAND MASTER.

Mauldslee, M.P., P.G.M. Upper Ward Lanarkshire; and Bro. W. T. Reid, of Ardmeallie, P.G.M. Banffshire; while new Commissions were granted to Bro. Alexander Wilson for Aberdeen City, and Bro. Douglas Clark for Natal.

The recommendation to grant a sum of £100 to the Indian Famine Relief Fund was carried with acclamation.

The election to the 12 vacancies in Grand Committee was next proceeded with, and out of the 17 names brought forward the following were duly declared elected: Bros. Major F. W. Allan, Glasgow, 261 votes; John Graham of Broadstone, Glasgow, 223; George Dickson, M.D., Edinburgh, 206; Captain P. W. Anderson, Dundee, 191; J. MacNaught Campbell, Glasgow, 182; John Carruthers, Glasgow, 180; Allan Mackenzie, Edinburgh, 170; James Muir, Uddingston, 170; Robert K. Inches, Edinburgh, 163; George Christie, Stirling, 166; C. Carthew Yorston, advocate, Edinburgh, 161; and A. A. Spiers of Elderslie, Houston, 144.

From the financial statement prepared by Bro. David Reid, Grand Treasurer, it is shown that the income of Grand Lodge for the last quarter amounted to £2289 9s. 7d., and the expenditure to 1452 9s. 11d., which includes £292 7s. paid into the Benevolent Fund, leaving a balance of £836 19s. 5d. of income over expenditure.

After notices of motions had been given, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

FOURTH LADIES' NIGHT OF THE MOLESEY LODGE,
No. 2478.

The fourth ladies' night of the Molesey Lodge, No. 2478, was held at the Hotel Windsor, Victoria-street, on the 27th ult., and was marked with all the success that attends the efforts of this vigorous and flourishing lodge. Every arrangement possible to conduce to the comfort of the visitors had been made by the W.M., Bro. E. L. Berry, assisted by the Stewards, Bros. E. Lane Campbell, H. J. Keen, W. J. Harvey, and E. Parsons. The result was a thoroughly enjoyable evening; a duplicate of similar functions held in previous years and a guarantee for those to be held in the future.

An excellent menu had been prepared, and when ample justice had been done to the good fare provided, a few toasts were honoured, the W.M. very judiciously observing that music would be far preferable to speech making.

After "The Queen" had been heartily proposed and received, the W.M. submitted "The Prov. Grand Officers of Surrey," and read a telegram from Bro.

F. West, Dep. Prov. G.M., expressing his great regret that a chill prevented his attendance. Bro. Cleave, their I.P.M. was a Prov. G.D., and he (the W.M.) would inform the ladies that it was a great honour for a lodge when one of its members received such a distinction. The members had thought this a fitting opportunity to present Bro. Cleave with a token of their regard, which had been engrossed on vellum. From the formation of the lodge, Bro. Cleave had been most zealous in everything they had taken in hand, and his honours were well-deserved. It was well-known that Provincial honours were only given in Surrey for actual work, and that no sluggard had a chance, and, therefore, it was a double honour. He (the W.M.) had great pleasure in presenting the following address to Bro. Cleave: "In pursuance of a resolution adopted September 3, 1896, the brethren of the Molesey Lodge offer most hearty congratulations to Bro. I.P.M., J. R. Cleave upon the well-deserved honour conferred upon him by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Lord Onslow, G.C.M.G., in appointing him Prov. G. Deacon of the Province of Surrey as a recognition of his eminent services to Freemasonry, rendered not only to the Molesey Lodge (of which he was a founder and 3rd Master) but also to the Craft at large in several Degrees and Orders."

Bro. J. R. CLEAVE, Prov. J.G.D. Surrey, I.P.M., said he did not know what to say in response to this very kind mark of their approval. As a Prov. G. Officer he had had little experience and therefore felt diffident in making remarks. He should, however, like to say that he considered it a great honour to be in that position, as the honour was due in all cases to the work done by the brethren. As far as the testimonial was concerned, he considered it was the proudest moment of his life, and should treasure the gift as long as he lived. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart.

Bro. CLEAVE then proceeded to propose the next toast, "The Health of the W.M.," and said that Bro. Berry had been associated very closely with the lodge from its inception, and its success was to a great extent due to his untiring energy. The W.M. was an admirable exponent of the ritual and was imbued with the spirit of it and never spared any trouble in the affairs of the lodge or its management. His ability and geniality had met with the appreciation and approval of the brethren.

Bro. E. L. BERRY, Prov. G. Stwd. Surrey, W.M., said that after the glowing terms used by the I.P.M. he felt out of place in responding. What little he did, he did with an idea that he was not doing anything, and when he was told he was doing a lot, it was a double compliment, for "he who feels smaller himself is greater in other's eyes." He thanked them sincerely for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed and received. He had next a pleasing duty to perform. They had during the last 12 months been helped by one who had assisted them to a considerable extent. They had an able Secretary, second to none, in Bro. S. Hewett, but that brother had a valuable help in Miss Hewett. The brethren had been so pleased with the way in which Miss Hewett had assisted in the secretarial work, that they asked her acceptance of a gold bracelet.

Bro. C. O. BURGESS, P.P.G.D. Surrey, proposed "The Visitors" in cordial terms, warmly welcoming them, and expressing the earnest hope that their visit would be repeated. There was a good attendance of ladies, and they had the good fortune to welcome some faces that had previously graced their board. From the very devoted manner in which the brethren had endeavoured to amuse the ladies, he hoped that gathering was a very popular one, and one calculated to give them great pleasure. He would couple the name of Bro. W. J. Harvey for the ladies, although, he was sure, they were perfectly capable of replying themselves. He would also ask Bro. Peacock, P.M., to reply for the visitors.

Bro. W. J. HARVEY returned thanks, on behalf of the ladies, for the hospitality shown them, and suggested a few more such occasions rather than so many lodge meetings. The ladies had heard a little of Masonry, and they fancied they knew a little, but there were a great many mysteries they could not quite fathom, but would like to inquire into.

Bro. E. PEACOCK, P.M. 1928, in response, said they had received the heartiest of welcomes and the best of fare. As Freemasons they owed a great deal to the ladies, and the very least they could do, as they could not make them Masons, was to admit them on certain occasions.

A musical entertainment was then given under the direction of Bro. H. J. Foan, Org., who was assisted by Miss Margaret Cooper, R.A.M.; Miss Gertrude Snow; Bros. Saml. Masters and Stuart Walker; Messrs. W. R. A. Roberts, Ambrose Thorne, and Fred. Upton. The W. Master also gave an interesting exhibition of the Röntgen X rays.

Amongst the company present were Bro. E. L. Berry, W.M.; Bro. J. R. Cleave, I.P.M., and Mrs. Cleave; Bro. J. D. Langton, D.G.D.C., and Mrs. Langton; Bro. W. Dennis, S.W. Bro. Buxton, P.M., Treas., Mrs. and Miss Buxton; Bro. Mrs. and Miss Hewett; Bro. and Mrs. H. J. Keen; Bro. H. White, P.M., and Mrs. White; Bro. R. Canc, P.M. 1287; Bro. Mrs. and Miss Mayo; Bro. and Mrs. Fleming; Bro. E. E. Peacock, P.M.; Bro. W. and Mrs. Ruddermacher; Bro. and Mrs. Harvey; Bro. Mrs., Miss, and Mr. Snow; Bro. and Mrs. Lane Campbell; Bro. and Mrs. Sherwood; and many others.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE EMBLEMATIC LODGE OF
INSTRUCTION, No. 1321.

The annual dinner of the above lodge of instruction was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the St. James' Hall (Banqueting Hall), and the company, numbering over 150, included Bros. W. F. Bates, P.M., President; J. H. Moggridge, W.M. 1321, Vice-President; W. O. Welsford, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; J. H. Price, P.P.G. Treas. Surrey, Treas.; E. L. Berry and C. E. Gilbert, Secs.; W. J. Harris, P.M.; and others.

After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured,

Bro. W. F. BATES, in proposing "Prosperity to the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction," gave a most eloquent and impressive exposition of the good work that had been accomplished, and bore testimony to the valuable services rendered by Bros. Berry and Gilbert, their twin Secs., to whose energy and interest the marked success was largely due. The lodge started with 25 members now they numbered over 200. During the past 12 months a benevolent fund had been formed, and by this means 25 guineas had been subscribed to the Masonic Charities.

Bro. J. H. PRICE, P.M., P.P.G. Treas. Surrey, Treas., in the course of a most interesting speech, congratulated the lodge on the continued progress it had made, due to the excellent teaching of the Preceptors.

Bro. J. H. MOGGRIDGE, W.M. 1321, in proposing "The Visitors," remarked that it was always a toast received in the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction in a cordial manner. They were honoured with the presence of a goodly number, and they were all welcome.

During the evening a presentation was made to the twin Secretaries, Bros. Berry and Gilbert, by the PRECEPTOR, who, in well-chosen words, presented each brother, in the name of the lodge, with a silver cigar case, beautifully engraved.

Bros. BERRY and GILBERT replied.

A capital musical programme was provided, the following ladies and gentlemen taking part: Miss Susetta Fenn, Miss Edith Yorke, Mr. Gurney Russell, Mr. Fred. Wilson, Sidney Bryant, Edwin Bullock, W. J. Morrell, W. R. G. Roberts (by kind permission of Messrs. Maskelyne and Cook), Bros. W. J. Harris, C. Stuart Walker, Geo. Thatcher, F. Birnes, A. White, W. Sergeant Lee, M.A., Victor Offerman (accompanyist), and Clement Harris.

Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening, and Bro. W. F. Bates, P.M., President and Preceptor of the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction, is to be heartily congratulated on such a successful gathering.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT GREENOCK.

The foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall for Lodge St. John, No. 175, was laid with full Masonic honours and in the presence of a large gathering of brethren on Saturday, the 6th inst. The brethren, after being marshalled in the Sugar Exchange, marched through the principal streets to the site of the new building, where Bro. James Reid, R.W.M. 175, and Depute Prov. Grand Master of the Province of Renfrewshire West, performed the ceremony with the usual customs and usages. He was ably assisted by the Wardens and Office Bearers of No. 175, and by Bro. Major F. W. Allan, Depute Prov. Grand Master of the Province of Renfrewshire East.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren assembled in the saloon of the Town Hall, where a cake and wine banquet had been prepared. Bro. James Reid occupied the chair and discharged his duties in his usual cheery and exemplary manner. A long toast list was submitted and duly honoured.

Bro. REID, in the course of his remarks in reply to the toast of "The Lodge Greenock St. John, No. 175," said that when he took the chair some two years ago the lodge funds stood at something like £1000, but by the energy of the brethren and the success of the bazaar lately held the funds now stood at near £3000, and this, after paying £500 for the site that would shortly be occupied by the building of which they had just laid the foundation. He thanked the visiting brethren for their presence at the ceremony and trusted they would all enjoy themselves during the remainder of the evening.

A very enjoyable evening was soon after brought to a happy end, and every one present expressed his appreciation of the entertainment and enjoyment of the harmony which prevailed throughout.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. GEORGE ABBOTT, P.M. 192

Interesting ceremonies took place on Monday last, at the Charing-cross and Cannon-street Termini of the South Eastern Railway, when Bro. George Abbott, who then completed his 50 years' service in the company named, was presented with a handsome testimonial and address at each station.

The presentation at Charing Cross consisted of a silver epergne and cut-glass fruit dishes, and that at Cannon-street of a set of handsome entré dishes.

A large number of the staff met at each station to congratulate Bro. Abbott on the auspicious anniversary.

The presentation was made at Charing Cross by Mr. SWIFT, chief clerk, and at Cannon-street by Mr. PLANT, the chief inspector, both of whom spoke of the high esteem in which Bro. Abbott was held by his fellow-servants.

Bro. ABBOTT, who was cordially cheered, responded in suitable terms.

INAUGURATION OF THE ZODIAC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

A very large number of brethren assembled in the Masonic Hall connected with the Denmark Hotel, East Ham, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., the occasion being the inauguration of the above lodge. It will be remembered that the mother lodge was only consecrated in July last, and it is very creditable to the brethren to determine upon giving facilities to its new members to learn the meaning of what they have been initiated into.

There were present Bros. Charles J. R. Tijou, P.A.G.P.; B. C. Curtis, P.M.; G. Sidders, P.M.; A. T. Ives, P.M.; Palmer, P.M.; T. Cowell, J. S. Chapman, Wm. W. Ives, Dale, Eggbrecht, Pilgrim, Quinn, G. Smith, Wilkinson, Willson, Wheldon, Munn, Sturt, Manning, Stillwell, Brough, Melkin, and several other brethren.

Bro. W. W. Ives, from the chair, informed the brethren that the W.M. of the Zodiac Lodge had been pleased to grant them a sanction for a lodge of instruction under his warrant, and as it was the unanimous wish of the brethren to elect Bro. Thomas Cowell as their Preceptor, he called upon that brother to come forward, and duly invested him with a collar of office, and congratulated the brethren on having secured so learned a Freemason.

Bro. Cowell assumed the chair, with Bros. Sidders, as S.W.; Chapman, J.W.; Thomas, S.D.; Dale, J.D.; Melkin, I.G.; and Manning, Org., and opened the lodge in the First Degree. The brethren of the Henley Lodge, No. 1472, being on this occasion especially invited to work the ceremonies, occupied the various offices vacated by the officers of the lodge. The W.M., Bro. A. T. Ives, the Preceptor of the Henley Lodge, had Bros. Palmer as S.W.; Morgan as J.W.; Stevenson as S.D.; Taite as J.D.; and J. Andrew as I.G. The ceremony of initiation was most impressively worked with Bro. Stillwell as candidate.

The officers of the lodge having re-assumed their posts, a hearty vote of thanks to the Henley brethren was unanimously carried and responded to by their Preceptor, Bro. A. T. Ives, P.M.

Bros. J. S. Chapman, W. W. Ives, and W. Henshaw were unanimously re-elected Treasurer, Secretary, and Asst. Secretary, respectively. A number of the brethren joined what now fairly claims to be one of the largest lodges of instruction in the East of London, a success due to the popularity of the Preceptor, and his excellent method of teaching.

Bro. C. J. R. Tijou, P.A.G.P., in responding to a vote of thanks for his presence, expressed his pleasure at being present, and admired the healthy friendly feeling existing between the two lodges, the Henley and the Zodiac, and especially referred to the 15 sections that Bro. Cowell, Preceptor, had worked on a former occasion, and wishing the new lodge every success.

The lodge being duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet which was admirably served by Bro. G. Smith, the proprietor.

In the absence of Bro. Cowell, who had retired indisposed, Bro. William W. Ives, J.W. 2615, presided, and after all the good things had been duly discussed and appreciated, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts given and responded to, a musical entertainment followed, under the direction of Bros. J. J. Berry and Chapman. A most enjoyable and enthusiastic evening terminating, the brethren departed to their homes singing the national anthem in commemoration of the 60th year of the Queen's glorious reign.

The Craft Abroad.

CONSECRATION OF THE STELLENBOSCH LODGE, No. 2646.

The consecration of the Stellenbosch Lodge, Stellenbosch, Western Division, South Africa, took place on Saturday, the 9th ultimo. The lodge was consecrated under a provisional warrant granted by the D.G.M. of the Western Division, South Africa, Bro. the Very Rev. C. W. Barnett Clarke, M.A., pending the arrival of the charter from the Grand Lodge of England.

A party of brethren went from Cape Town in the afternoon, including Bros. J. B. Wheelwright, D.D.G.M.; C. J. Hogg, D.S.G.W.; A. W. Snashall, D.J.G.W.; J. E. King, D.G. Treas.; G. E. O. Bennett, D.G.D.C., acting D.G. Sec.; T. Millwain, D.A.G.D.C.; E. Buxton, D.G. Tyler; C. J. Bate, W.M. St. Jan Lodge, Malmesbury; H. Cunningham, W.M. Lodge de Goede Trouw (Netherlands Constitution); J. J. Johnston, W.M. elect St. Patrick's Lodge, Cape Town (I.C.); and representatives from many of the lodges in Cape Town and neighbourhood.

The lodge holds its meetings in the Court-house, a building fairly suitable for the purpose. The Consecrating Officer was the D.D.G.M., assisted by the D.S.G.W. as Chaplain, who delivered a short but effective oration, the D.G. Treas. filling the S.W.'s chair.

After the ceremony of consecration was performed, the installation of the W.M. elect took place, Bro. C. Stapylton-Adkins, P.M. Rocky Park Lodge, No. 2252, Barkly East.

The usual addresses were delivered, and the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. George Prince, P.M., I.P.M.; John Cook, S.W.; H. R. Rowe, J.W.; J. W. Honey, Treas.; J. Cook, acting Sec.; G. West, S.D.; A. B. de Villiers, J.D.; and William Alléz, I.G.

Several proposals for initiation were made, and the new lodge, which started with 15 members, bid fair to prosper. Many of its members and candidates are connected with the various educational establishments of Stellenbosch, including a fair sprinkling of graduates of British Universities.

A banquet was held in the billiard-room of the Commercial Hotel, at which about three dozen sat down.

In proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," the DEPUTY DISTRICT GRAND MASTER spoke of the energy and labour that Bro. S. Adkins had bestowed in the lodge, which might fairly be said to be called into existence by his labours.

Bro. ADKINS suitably responded.

The other usual toasts were also given and acknowledged.

Bro. BATE, W.M. of the Lodge St. Jan, Malmesbury, alluding with pleasure to the knowledge of the good work that Bro. Adkins had done in the Rocky Park Lodge, of which they were both P.M.s.

Next morning many of the Cape Town brethren were up betimes and to the station about five o'clock to await the Main Line train. Punctuality, however, can hardly be expected of a train in South Africa after a journey of 600 or 700 miles on a single line, and this was only three and a half hours late, impatience being intensified by hunger, strongly developed by the keen morning air.

Craft Masonry.

St. George's Lodge, No. 242.

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Nether Hall, Doncaster, on Friday, the 5th instant. Present: Bros. R. Bridge, W.M.; J. H. Pawson, I.P.M.; F. H. Buckland, S.W.; G. Smith, J.W.; F. Rand, P.P.G.D., Treas.; F. Duff, Sec.; H. C. White, S.D.; F. W. Turner, J.D.; H. Foster, I.G.; S. B. Castle, Steward; A. W. Fretwell, P.M.; C. Goldthorpe, P.M.; F. J. Firth, P.M.; F. Webb, P.M.; J. Fitzgerald, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. W. J. Saunders, 599; G. Milner, 180; M. Dawson, 1482; and J. Constable, 1482 and 2259.

The lodge having been opened, Bros. Hirst and Bridge were duly passed to the Degree of F.C. At the close the brethren partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

Unanimity Lodge, No. 287.

The regular meeting of the above good old lodge which was very numerously attended by brethren and visitors, was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., Bro. Arthur James Hewett, W.M., in the chair. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and Bros. J. H. Good and W. A. Hall were passed to the Degree of F.C., Bro. C. D. Cheetham performing one of the ceremonies. Before the closing of the lodge a very interesting event took place in the presentation by the brethren of a centenary jewel to Bro. Charles Derbyshire Cheetham, P.M. 993, and Prov. J.G.W. of East Lancashire, who 12 months ago became a joining brother of the lodge. In asking the W.M. to present the jewel Bro. Dawson, P.M., Treas., and Charity Representative, spoke in high terms of the esteem in which Bro. Cheetham was held, not only in that lodge, but by every one in Cheshire; who had the honour of his acquaintance, and in East Lancashire, the largest province in the world. Bro. Cheetham's name is held in reverence by all who know him, he being at the time their honoured Vice-Chairman of the Charity Council. Bro. Dawson went on to say Bro. Cheetham was Vice-Patron of the R.M.B.I., and owns over 300 votes, and has served as Steward about a dozen times at the Old Folk's Festival in London, a Life Governor of the R.M.I. for Girls and Boys, and coming nearer home, he is a Patron of the East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent Institution, and to his credit be it said four members of Bro. Cheetham's family had qualified as Life Governors of the East Lancashire Benevolent Institution. Bros. T. E. Rigby, P.M., and James Cookson, P.M., P.P.G.W., spoke in high terms of the many sterling qualities of Bro. Cheetham.

The W.M., Bro. A. J. Hewett, in a few well-chosen words, asked the worthy brother to accept the centenary jewel as an expression of goodwill towards him and

affection of all the brethren of the Unanimity Lodge, and their respect for the services he had rendered to Masonry, both as regards the work he had done, and for his most generous liberality to the London and local Charities, he desired, personally, to thank Bro. Cheetham for his help that night in performing the ceremony at a moment's notice, and the manner in which the task was performed in presenting the working tools in full was a treat to all present.

Bro. Cheetham, in reply, confessed his great surprise at receiving any present. He had only been for 12 months a subscribing member, and could not imagine any reason why their kindness should be extended in a practical form. He should very much prize the jewel, and when wearing it be reminded of his obligation to the brethren of the Unanimity Lodge. He hoped to continue to be a subscribing member for many years to come, and any assistance he could render the lodge, they could, when not otherwise occupied, at all times be heartily welcome to his humble services. In conclusion, he assured the brethren that he would at all times, when attending the elections at London, render all the aid in his power to their worthy Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Newhouse, who, during the past year, had been honoured by the M.W.G.M. in having been appointed to the office of Deputy G.S.B. of England.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 28th ult. There was a large attendance of brethren and visitors: Bros. W. T. Oakley, W.M.; P. Rogers, I.P.M.; H. Pearce, S.W.; A. M. Archer, J.W.; W. H. Brand, P.M., Treas.; C. Lorkin, P.M., Sec.; E. Frisby, S.D.; H. B. Burgess, J.D.; P. Felthensal, Org.; A. Dignam, P.M.; J. L. Payne, P.M.; A. Ferrar, P.M.; W. Beasley, P.P.; E. J. Turnbull, P.M.; J. H. Rich, P.M.; Friedlander, Kotch, Meyn, May, Williss, Harding, O. Puck, Watts, A. S. Black, Thompson, T. Young, T. Stockton, A. Smith, A. H. Smith, C. J. Jacques, G. T. Dobson, H. Allardyce, L. G. Hammond, and others. Amongst the many visitors were noticed Bros. Hoad, P.M. 1000; S. E. F. Vernon, 455; G. W. Grace, 73; J. Johnson, 1632; E. T. Ginder, 1563; F. J. Hawkins, 860; J. Gillespie, 1865; F. Keblell, 1662; H. C. Mullen, 211; H. Cross, 211; Durrant, P.M. 121; Dodson, P.M. 860; T. W. Howard, 12; Partington, P.M.; and others.

After the formal opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. W. T. Oakley concluded a very arduous and satisfactory year of office by installing his successor, Bro. H. Pearce, in an impressive and dignified manner, worthy of all praise. The following officers were then invested: Bros. W. T. Oakley, I.P.M.; A. M. Archer, S.W.; E. Frisby, J.W.; W. H. Brand, P.M., Treas.; C. Lorkin, P.M., Sec.; H. Burgess, S.D.; J. Bedford, J.D.; P. Felthensal, I.G.; H. Pharo, Org. and D.C.; and Henderson and Smith, Stwds.

The I.P.M. was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel by the W.M. The ballot was taken for Messrs. H. M. Wakeley and W. J. Williams, and, being unanimous, the candidates were initiated into the mysteries of the Craft in a very praiseworthy manner.

The business of the lodge ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet provided in Bro. Clemow's *recherche* style, which was followed by the usual loyal toasts, the speeches in connection with which were commendably brief in order that the lengthy programme of music might be enjoyed.

The musical arrangements were most ably carried out under the direction of Miss E. Frisby and W. Harmer, assisted by Mrs. Harmer, Madame Clemow, and Miss Emerson Hurst, Mr. Tom Day, and the Morriss combination. It was a late hour when the brethren separated after spending a most delightful evening.

Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Regent-circus, on the 25th ult., when there were present Bros. Thos. Jefferies, W.M.; John Pratt, S.W., W.M. elect; Geo. Thompson, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., Treas.; Captain C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; J. Bishop, J.D.; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., D.C.; A. B. Fox and A. George, Stewards; W. Sparks, Org.; A. Ramsden, R. Ross, P.M.; E. P. Waymouth, J. H. Adcock, T. Nicholson, H. E. W. Poole, A. J. Tapling, A. C. Norman, T. J. Ash, R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler; and others. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Goode, P.M. 1964; Jno. Loader, P.M. 1622; W. Dawson, S.W. 1622; A. White, J.W. 1693; E. S. Pearson, 1507; Thomas Hobley, J.W. 1320; F. O. Tubby, W.M. 907; H. Saunion, P.M. 1423; W. B. Parsons, P.M. 2206; S. R. Lovett, P.M. 3; J. D. Wilde, W.M. 387; C. Mallous, 144; A. Hodgkinson, 569; R. T. Rosenberg, 862; W. J. Clark, 1531; J. Garrod, P.M. 754; A. Lidgate, 901; Christopher Sims, P.M. 2579; F. Eade, I.P.M. 901; R. Ross, 2300; Joseph Bate, W.M. 1507; W. H. Handover, J.D. 1642; F. Tomlin, P.M. 1360; J. T. Rowe, P.M. 167; Thos. R. Cass, P.M. 1320; A. H. Scurrah, P.M. 2201, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx.; Henry Longman, P.M. 2271; G. Wallace, P.M. 907; S. W. Ballard, W.M. 1622; John Lequire, W.M. 1669; G. H. Tegetmeier, 1929; W. Adcock, J.W. 2202; Alfred Mills, 704; R. Cogan-Mason, S.W. 2241; and R. T. West.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and the Auditors' report received and adopted, and other business followed. Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., then occupied the chair and proceeded with the important task of installing Bro. John Pratt as W.M., which he did with precision and dignity. The following brethren were appointed and invested officers: Bros. T. Jefferies, I.P.M.; George Thompson, S.W.; A. B. Fox, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., Treas.; Capt. C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; A. George, S.D.; E. P. Waymouth, J.D.; J. H. Adcock, I.G.; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., D.C.; W. Sparks, Org.; and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. The delivery of the customary addresses was very ably and impressively rendered by Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., and once more we have to congratulate him on the efficient manner in which he carried out the installation ceremony. The W.M. then had the pleasing duty of initiating his son, Mr. Arthur John Pratt. The W.M. said it was his pleasure and privilege, on behalf of the lodge, to present the outgoing Master, Bro. T. Jefferies, with a Past Master's jewel as a very small return for his great services, which were appreciated, and he sincerely trusted he might have long life to wear it in that and other lodges. In acknowledging the jewel, Bro. T. Jefferies, I.P.M., stated that he was honoured and grateful for their mark of appreciation. Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., stated that Bro. A. H. Cole, P.M., was to have performed the installation ceremony, but in consequence of the very serious illness of his good wife (and they all deplored the cause of his absence), he was not able to act that night, and he moved that a letter be sent to him conveying the members' sincerest regret and warmest sympathy with him. This was seconded in feeling terms by Bro. Capt. Knightley, and carried unanimously. Letters were read from Bros. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas.; D. Msdale, P.G.T.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and James Willing, P.M., regretting their inability to attend.

The lodge was then closed and a *recherche* banquet followed.

At the close of the repast the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft."

In proposing "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that no words of his were necessary to extol the toast, and he would content himself by associating with it the names—and they were both well-known—of Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., and W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., acknowledged the toast in a few words, but to the point.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., also responded, eulogising the great services rendered by Bros. Lord Lathom and Earl Amherst to the Craft, and he hoped in the future that the lodge would have more Grand Officers.

In submitting "The Health of the Worshipful Master," Bro. T. Jefferies, I.P.M., stated that he had known Bro. Pratt for very many years, and everything he took in hand was a success; he had a winning way with him, and he felt the lodge would prosper during his year of office, and he was certain he would make a better ruler than he had been.

The toast was received with enthusiasm, as was the W.M., Bro. Pratt, on rising to respond.

Bro. Pratt, W.M., said he thanked them for the hearty way they had received the toast and for Bro. Jefferies's kind words, with whom he had worked hand in hand for many years. He hoped with their great assistance to give every satisfaction, and any way he would do his very best to promote the interests of the lodge.

The W.M. proposed "The Installing Master and Past Masters," and said that he should never forget the great honour of being installed by Bro. W. M. Stiles, and for the great assistance he had received from Bro. Jefferies, I.P.M., that evening. They had only to look at Bro. Stiles's face to see what a good Mason and a happy man he was, and it gave him much pleasure to couple his name and that of Bro. Jefferies with the toast.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., on rising to respond, had a very hearty welcome. He said first let him mention how much he regretted having been called upon to act as Installing Master, through the unavoidable absence of Bro. A. H. Cole, P.M. He was always glad if he could be of any use to the lodge, and he was honoured when asked to act that evening to install Bro. Pratt.

Bro. T. Jefferies, I.P.M., also responded, and said he must again refer to the jewel which he had received, and he should ever prize it. He was initiated in the lodge about 15 years ago, and now that he had passed the chair in his mother lodge, he had reached the height of his ambition in the Masonic world.

In giving the toast of "The Initiate," the W.M. stated that without initiates Masonry would soon be at a low ebb. He was especially proud to have had the honour of initiating his son that evening, and it was an agreeable surprise, as it was not arranged that he should do it, but the initiate had mistaken the time, and he had really initiated him for Bro. Jefferies. He (the W.M.) well remembered when he was initiated, and at the time he said to Bro. W. M. Stiles—who initiated him—that he would never be satisfied until he got into the chair, and it was a happy coincidence that Bro. Stiles had installed him, and he felt it a great honour to have been initiated and, years after, installed by so eminent a Mason.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. A. J. Pratt responded. He thanked them very much for admitting him as a member, and he appreciated the honour of having been initiated by his father. From what he was told he thought he would have to go through something dreadful, and he was more than pleased that he was now a Freemason, and they might rely upon him that the solemn oath he had taken would be faithfully kept, and as a last word, might he add, that he hoped he might some day be in the proud position of W.M. of the lodge.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," to whom he gave a hearty welcome. They had a good number present, several of whom were dear friends of his and he was honoured and appreciated by their presence. Time would not permit him to refer to all their guests individually, but he made special reference to Bros. J. Bate, W.M. 1507; S. W. Ballard, W.M. 1622; J. Lequire, W.M. 1669; F. Eade, I.P.M. 901; John Loader, P.M. 1622; and H. Longman, P.M. 2271.

Bro. J. Bate responded. He said those in the Royal Savoy Lodge were well cared for, because they had two Grand Officers as members. He was delighted to see the excellent working of Bro. W. M. Stiles, and he had learned much from him that evening, which would be of great service to him when he installed his successor in his lodge.

Bro. S. W. Ballard also acknowledged the toast, observing that it was his first visit and he hoped it would not be his last. The W.M. had been in the proud position of initiating his son, and it was a great thing for a father to do. He wished him every prosperity and a happy year of office.

Bro. J. Lequire said he was glad to have been invited to such a nice lodge, both for its good working and conviviality, and he congratulated the W.M. on initiating his son, and if the son followed in the Masonic footsteps of his father he could not go wrong.

Bros. F. Eade, P.M.; J. Loader, P.M.; H. Longman, P.M.; and J. T. Goode, P.M., also responded in very happy terms.

The next toast was "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. remarking that they were proud to have a Grand Officer as Treasurer. Bro. Stiles was not only one of the best of officers, but he was good in pocket, or, in other words, the lodge's banker, and yet he was one of the very modest sort. The Secretary, Bro. Captain Knightley, did his work, which was no easy task, to the satisfaction of all the members, and might he and the Treasurer be with them for very many years to give their assistance to the good old Royal Savoy Lodge.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., Treas., responded. He said that he was unaccustomed to public speaking, but anything he took in hand he liked to succeed in, and the lodge was succeeding, and if he could render any service to make the W.M.'s year of office a happy and prosperous one he would be only too glad. No Treasurer could have a better Secretary than Bro. Captain Knightley, who was a very old and dear friend of his, and he could not speak too highly of him, and while he remained as Secretary the lodge would prosper.

Bro. Capt. Knightley, P.M., Sec., said they had found him that night as he had always been—doing his duty fearlessly, but for the prosperity of the lodge and the happiness of the members.

The W.M. gave "The Officers," and said that those he had invested would do their duty well. He made special mention of the D.C., Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., who would look well after them, for whatever he did was with the best intentions, and he associated his name, with those of Bros. G. Thompson, S.W., and A. B. Fox, J.W., with the toast.

Bro. Geo. Thompson, S.W., in response, thanked the W.M. for his kind words. He had, since he was initiated, tried to do his duty as a Mason. He was proud to be the S.W., and he hoped the Grand Architect of the Universe would give him health and strength to go forward if it fell to his happy lot to be elected to the chair.

Bro. A. B. Fox, J.W., also responded, observing that he had served as Steward for two years, and it was a high position to jump into the J.W.'s chair, and he much appreciated the honour they had conferred upon him.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., D.C., also acknowledged the toast in brief but very eloquent terms.

The Tyler's toast brought to an end one of the many of the happy installation meetings of the Royal Savoy Lodge it has been our privilege and pleasure to attend.

An excellent musical programme was contributed to by Bro. W. H. Webb, Messrs. Wills Page, Broughton Black, and Wilfred Stracey, but a word is due to Mr. Wills Page, who gave his songs with marked effect. Bro. W. W. Arter was the musical director, and he ably presided at the pianoforte.

United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2129.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst. Present: Bros. W. B. Hextall, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire, W.M.; R. Davison, I.P.M.; E. C. R. Oxley, S.W.; W. E. Porter, J.W.; C. R. Lee, Treasurer; W. H. Bullock, Secretary; T. Moysey, S.D.; W. N. Haydon, J.D.; T. W. Chant, I.G.; C. J. Weller, Steward; H. E. Venden, Tyler; Town, Newton, Vivian, C. S. Ayling, Munro, Hogg, R. S. Ayling, Hall, Parkinson, Davis, R. Bullock, Jones, Walker, Cooper, Nield, Riley, and Dryden. Visitors: Bros. Horn, S.W. 1599; Leake, 302; Edwards, 304; Whitaker, P.M. 1572; Williams, 148 (Baltimore, U.S.A.); Debenham, P.M. 28; Fisk, 404; Dickson, 1572; and Thornton, 2466.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes of last regular lodge, held on 8th December, read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Maurice Aubrey as an initiate, and it proved unanimous. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Mr. Herbert Nield and Mr. Richard Cooper. This event was looked forward to with much interest by the members as it was Bro. Hextall's first appearance in the chair, and his fame as a Craft worker in Derbyshire had been made known to his London brethren. The brilliant advocate of the Court of Queen's Bench and Midland Circuit performed the initiation ceremony, including the charge of the First Degree, in a way that will long live in the memory of those who heard it, especially the initiates. The sum of £10 10s. was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the amount to be placed on Bro. Chant's Steward's list. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow of Bro. H. J. Gillor, P.M. 1984 and 2128, P.P.G.P. Herts, who died on 19th December, 1896. Neither Bro. Cumberland nor Bro. Smithson, both Past Masters of the lodge, could be present, the former being ill, and the latter detained on business in the North. Domestic affliction kept away Bro. Keates, P.M., D.C., and Bro. Wingrove, S.D. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Cumberland for his preparation of a complete record of the brethren who had belonged to the lodge from the time of its formation until the present date. A gentleman having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. This pleasant function was attended by 36 brethren, presided over by the W.M., and his working in the fourth degree soon put everyone at their ease.

Bro. Blackly, the hotel manager, had prepared for the occasion, a menu, the seductiveness of which caused the brethren to linger long over its items. After the cloth had been removed, and the loyal toasts given, the W.M. announced that long speeches were to be tabooed, and the evening was given up to harmony. Bros. Town and Porter were at the pianoforte. Bro. Dryden shook the bones. Bros. Haydon, Walker, and Thornton looked after the vocal items.

The Tyler's toast arrived all too soon, and brought to a close an evening voted by all to be "one of the best."

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W. Bro. JOSEPH RUSSELL, P.G. Stwd. (Secretary).

Secretary's Address—27 & 28, Milk-street, E.C.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL

has been appointed to take place

On FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 1897.

The R.W. Bro.

Lt.-Gen. J. WIMBURN LAURIE, M.P.,

P.G.W., Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia,

has kindly consented to preside.

Lodge will be opened at 6 o'clock p.m. in the Grand
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the occasion.

The First Lecture will be worked.

After the Lodge is closed, the Brethren will adjourn to
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Interest	172,000
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

Very considerable progress has been made since last week in strengthening the Board of Stewards for the forthcoming Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Wednesday, the 24th inst. If the same rate of progress is continued it is by no means improbable that the record number of ladies and brethren on the Board last year will be equalled, if not surpassed. If this should be the case and the efforts of these Stewards are only as successful as they were last year—or only approximately as successful—the Board of Management may feel themselves justified in commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee as they did her Jubilee in 1887, by adding a few more annuitants to the existing establishment. We do not permit ourselves to be too sanguine in a

case of this kind. We are well aware that a record Board of Stewards does not necessarily succeed in raising a record total of donations and subscriptions; but if all goes well with the latter, as we are pleased to say it has gone with the former, there may be a chance of something of the kind being done.

* * *

Our readers will be able to judge of the desirability of some such step being taken in respect of one or both of the Funds of the Institution, when we state that at the regular monthly meeting of the Committee of Management, at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the number of candidates was declared to be 117, made up of 65 for the Male Fund, and 52 for the Widows' Fund. At the same time the vacancies to be filled up at the election in May were declared as follows, namely, for the Male Fund, including the three deferred annuities, 13; for the Widows' Fund, including the three deferred annuities, 18; total, 31. It is on the cards that between now and the day of election (Friday, the 21st May) other vacancies may occur, and in that case it is usual for the Committee to recommend, and as usual for the Annual General Meeting of Governors and Subscribers to adopt the recommendation, that such vacancies be filled up, in addition to those which have just been declared. It is also probable that the list of candidates may be reduced by death or other causes. But what concerns us now is that, at the present time, there are 117 candidates for 31 vacancies; in other words, there is only room under existing circumstances on the establishment for about one-fourth of the candidates, and consequently the remaining three-fourths will have to wait a further twelve months at least before they have another chance of being elected.

* * *

We cannot say we view with favour any such proposal as that which was submitted to the Special General Meeting of Governors and Subscribers which was held on Wednesday after the meeting of the Committee of Management. In the first place, we are opposed to anything in the nature of tinkering the Rules and Regulations of a large Institution like this; in the next, we take leave to point out that it was, comparatively speaking, only the other day that the Laws defining the qualifications of candidates were altered in the direction of greater stringency.

* * *

Indeed, owing to the ever-increasing number of applicants for the benefits of the Institution, the necessity for such a step had long become imperative, and on the 14th May, 1890, amended laws were submitted to a Special General meeting and accepted, confirmed at the annual meeting two days later, and finally approved by Grand Lodge at its quarterly communication in June following. As regards the Male Fund, the changes were that applicants must have been registered Master Masons and subscribing members of a lodge or lodges for at least 15 years, instead of registered M.M. for 15 years, and subscribing members for 10 years. As regards the Widows' Fund, the minimum age was raised from 55 to 60 years, while an applicant's husband must have been a registered M.M. and subscribing member for 15 years instead of a registered M.M. for 15 and a subscribing member for 10 years. It was further required that she must have been married to him for at least seven years instead of five years as under the previous law, and if the widow of an annuitant, must have been married five instead of three years. The proposal made at the Special Meeting was to append in the Widows' qualifying rule the words "except he has been prevented by sickness, paralysis, or by some other serious bodily or mental affliction, or by death, from having completed such 15 years; in such case a subscription of 10 years will be sufficient."

* * *

It must not for one moment be imagined that we are not in sympathy with such cases. The point we have to consider is that notwithstanding the changes indicated above, the list of Widow Candidates remains nearly as formidable as it was before the 14th May, 1890; that is to say, there are almost as many candidates under the more stringent laws now as there were seven years ago under the less stringent. The question arises, if we cannot meet the pressing demands upon the resources of the Widows' Fund under existing circumstances shall we be better able to do so under the altered circumstances, when the number of applicants is greater? However, the resolution, somewhat modified, was carried, that in every case the husband of a Widow must have been a registered M.M. for 15 and a subscribing member 10 years, as before 1890.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. F. Dunster-ville, P.M., Secretary, Past Dist. S.G.W. Madras, for a copy of the Report of the Permanent Committee of Lodge Perfect Unanimity, No. 150, Madras, for the year 1896. The report has evidently been compiled with the greatest care, and at the same time contains a more detailed account of the proceedings than usual. Indeed, we have rarely seen one that is more to the point, and we may safely add that is generally more satisfactory, and in particular must be more gratifying to its members.

* * *

The lodge had the advantage of being presided over during the year by Bro. Lieut.-Col. G. M. J. Moore, District G.M., as Worshipful Master, and under his auspices would seem to have prospered exceedingly. As regards the number of members, there appears to have been a slight increase from 61 to 64, while at the 12 regular and one emergent meetings that were held, the average attendance, including visitors and the Tyler, was 20 per meeting, as compared with 18 the previous year. But the most gratifying part of all is as regards the financial position of the lodge. On the 1st January the cash balance was Rs. 829.3 2, which sum, taking into account Rs. 170 (arrears of subscriptions) and Rs. 223 (on dinner account), reached Rs. 1021.6.2. On the 31st December, 1896, the balance in the hands of the Treasurer and Secretary was Rs. 2086-1-10, "with absolutely no arrears whatever, the whole of the dues for the year for subscriptions, dining account, rent, and fees of all kinds having been received from the brethren; even the excluded brethren have since paid up in full." There are not a few members of lodges who, on reading this statement, will envy the brethren of Perfect Unanimity.

* * *

Then during the year the sum of Rs. 3000 was raised by debentures for the purpose of defraying the cost of inclosing the lodge premises by a good substantial wall and of other repairs—re-flooring and re-painting the dining hall, re-roofing the dining and bath rooms, &c.; the payments to the Contractor to date being Rs. 2641, with a further sum of Rs. 700 due and payable when the wall between the premises and the American Mission land is completed. These debentures will reach maturity on the 31st December, 1901, and the Committee recommend that the sum of Rs. 500 out of the cash balance of Rs. 2086 should be placed on fixed deposit in bank, with similar amounts at the close of the years 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, the further sum necessary to complete the repayment being provided at the end of 1901.

* * *

As regards the year's expenditure, the Committee report that it includes all fees and dues payable to Grand Lodge or District Grand Lodge, while as regards the general course of events, it is remarked that upwards of 30 years have elapsed since the District G.M. was elected and accepted the office of W.M., and the lodge having, as we have said, flourished in every way under his rule, the Committee recommend that his services should be recognised by the presentation of a hearty vote of thanks and the usual Past Master's jewel. They further recommend that the services of Bro. J. Stiven, as Treasurer during the last 10 years, should be recognised by voting him a Treasurer's jewel and the thanks of the lodge; and lastly with a view to stimulate the interest of those members who are unable to attend lodge meetings regularly, that all future reports be printed and circulated amongst them. It is almost needless to add that we heartily congratulate the brethren of Lodge Perfect Unanimity, No. 150, Madras, and particularly their I.P.M. (Bro. Lieut.-Col. Moore, D.G.M.) on the success which has attended their proceedings during 1896.

* * *

As showing the number of subjects which the Grand Master of an American Grand Lodge considers it to be his duty to refer to in reviewing the events of his year of office, we may state that the admirable address of Bro. W. B. Melish, M.W.G.M. of Ohio in 1896, contains some very strong remarks respecting a certain "Masonic Tramp," who is described as "having disported himself in his antique and greasy plug-hat" at the dedication of the Ohio Masonic Home and to have afterwards imposed on a number of prominent Masons in the State. He is spoken of as a black man, who claims to have been a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 175, Greenock, Scotland, and to have a diploma from the Grand Lodge of that country. He is denounced as a "scamp and impostor" both by G. Master Melish and the "National Masonic Relief Association," and the former was only prevented from initiating him into "workhouse fare and the pleasure of breaking rock" by the fellow's wariness.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some few months ago an interesting correspondence took place respecting the regular attendance at his lodge of a northern brother.

I had occasion recently to search the records of the Rothsay Lodge, No. 1687, and was delighted to find that the greatly esteemed P.M. and Secretary of the lodge, Bro. E. L. P. Valeriani, was initiated on the 5th December, 1877, and had never missed a meeting since that date—surely a record attendance!—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

London, February 9th.

P.M.

RE GRAND TREASURER MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you kindly, through the medium of your columns, allow me to announce the fact that Bro. Major T. C. Walls, on the advice of his large and strongly-representative Committee, has withdrawn his candidature in favour of Bro. Parke.

The Committee, however, unanimously resolved to support him on some future occasion. They consider that his great services in supporting, by his abilities and energy, the Mark, Ark Mariner, and Cryptic Degrees during the last 20 years cannot be too highly estimated, and warrants their action in pledging themselves to support him again. Upon mature consideration, they thought that, as a London brother was elected last year, it was the turn of a Provincial brother this year.

The fact of Bro. Major Walls thus gracefully retiring to prevent the inconvenience and expense of a contest, the Committee venture to think should not be forgotten when his candidature for the office is once more brought to the notice of his numerous friends in particular, and to the Order generally.—I am, yours fraternally,

H. J. LARDNER, P.S.G.D.,

Hon. Sec. of Bro. Major Walls' Committee.

St. Clement's House, 27, St. Clement's Inn, E.C.,
February 10th.

"MACNAB MS."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am very pleased with your appreciative article on the "Macnab MS." It is undoubtedly a valuable addition to the collection of "Old Charges," whether domiciled in West Yorkshire or as a whole, especially because of the "New Articles," which, so far, have not been sufficiently examined and valued.

Kindly allow me to state that copies may be had from the Publisher, Bro. George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, London, W.C., and may I ask brethren to so procure them, rather than to write me, unless for correspondence on the text. Such publications always entail on me considerable extra labour, as so many students embrace the opportunity thus offered to refer to these old documents at length.—Yours, &c.

W. J. HUGHAN.

Reviews.

"MASONIC CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF SURREY, 1897." (London: Jas. Truscott and Son).—This is the second year under the new auspices, edited by Bro. C. T. Tyler, Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. W. A. Latham, Asst. Prov. G. Sec., and is about twice the size of its predecessor. An excellent portrait of the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G. (the respected Prov. G.M.), does duty as frontispiece, and from the beginning, throughout, to the end, the handy little volume is accurate and complete as to all necessary details, save as to the Central Masonic Charities, particulars of which will form a distinctive feature of the 1898 issue, if those interested favour the obliging Editors with the requisite information. As to that, the Annual Reports of the three Institutions may be relied on to date of publication, and only require to be arranged, in suitable form for this welcome Annual. The Preface is evidently intended to be suggestive, as well as historic; the interesting items being of more value and importance than generally found in publications of the kind, and make one wish for more. It seems that the Province was first started in 1772, yet the oldest lodge on the present Roll only dates from 1823, some 50 years later. There are now 41 active lodges in the Province which, according to the ably arranged Table of Statistics, have returned a total of 1514 members, being an average of 37 to each. The number of initiations, &c., &c., are all duly noted, and even the number of official votes in Prov. Grand Lodge for each lodge is carefully computed and printed. The "Masonic Calendar" is not correct as respects the "Ancient Craft Date," as the number 4004 is added to the Vulgar era, instead of 4000, according to the usage of the Grand Lodge of England. To introduce another usage is much to be deprecated. The regular custom was given in the issue for 1896. The Rolls of Past Officers of Prov. G.L., &c., &c., also include the present list, so they are really of the Present and Past Officers, and are valuable records. Three new lists will be found very handy, viz., those of Prov. G.Ms., Grand Superintendants, and other Officers of the adjoining Provinces, and the present Directory has a statement of the Prov. Grand Chapter accounts, as well as those of the Prov. G. Lodge and various other Reports. In the additional pages respecting the K.T., &c., the "Convent General," should be omitted, as that has ceased to exist for many months past. The Masonic Memoranda will be found most useful for Secretaries of lodges, and the work as a whole reflects great credit on the painstaking Editors.

"HULL MASONIC CALENDAR, 1897."—This wee list of the meetings of the various Masonic bodies which are located in Hull, with those of others in the neighbourhood, is published by our esteemed friend, Bro. M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Sec., the Editor, and is arranged on the same lines as formerly, because for the purpose nothing better can possibly be done. There are six lodges, five Royal Arch chapters, three Mark lodges, and one each preceptory and chapter (of K.T. and the Rose Croix respectively) that assemble in Hull, so that this pocket guide is both handy and reliable for reference.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND and Countess Cadogan have been continuing their series of festivities at Dublin Castle during the present week, and among those who have been present as guests have been the Marquis of Ormonde, the Earl and Countess of Caledon, the Earl and Countess of Listowel, the Earl of Kenmare, Bro. the Earl and Countess Carrington, Bro. the Earl of Dunraven, Viscount Charlemont, and Bro. Viscount Powerscourt, among the festivities being several State Entertainments, including a full-dress dinner and an investiture of the Order of St. Patrick.

Craft Masonry.

St. John's Lodge, No. 279.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., and was a gathering of a very interesting character. The lodge was opened under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. John Butcher, assisted by the following officers: Bros. John Clifton, S.W.; Wm. Finn, J.W.; R. Michie, P.M., Treas.; Wm. Tyler, Sec.; Wm. Keites, S.D.; W. T. Topott, J.D.; E. A. E. Wright, D.C.; Wm. Hunt, Org.; J. W. Barker, I.G.; and Pick, Stwd.

There were also a number of members of the lodge and visitors from various lodges of the province, amongst those present were Bros. S. S. Partridge, W.M. 2429, P.M. 523, 1560, Deputy Prov. G.M.; E. Holmes, C. F. Wike, J. H. Marshall, H. Pickering, C. Gurden W. D. Grant, 279; W. A. Spencer, P.M. 523; C. Oliver, P.M. 1007; E. C. Kilby, W.M. 2081; E. F. Knight, W.M. 1130; F. Lambert, W.M. 1391; J. F. Snaith, W.M. 1007; G. S. Catlow, P.M. 50; G. Neighbour, P.M. 523; J. J. Bower, P.M. 1391; A. Ferguson, P.M. 1391; H. Goodacre Marriott, I.P.M. 2028; and G. J. B. Woolley, P.M. 1391.

After the usual preliminary business the W.M., assisted by Bros. Holmes, P.M.; Marshall, P.M.; and Pickering, P.M.; initiated four candidates. The next item on the agenda was the principal feature of the gathering and from its infrequency gave a very interesting tone to the proceedings, it was the presentation to Bro. J. Herbert Marshall, P.M. of the lodge, of a portrait of himself and an address which was bound in album form, on the occasion of his being elected to the office of Mayor of the town. Bro. Marshall has done a large amount of work for the Masonic body and also for the town Council of which he has been a member some nine years, and was in November last unanimously chosen to be its Mayor. Bro. Marshall, besides being a P.M. of his own lodge is a P.M. of No. 1007, and also P.Z. of Chapter, No. 1007. He has also served the office of Prov. S.G.W. and Prov. G. Scribe N., also is a P.M. of the Fowke Mark Lodge, No. 19, and Past Prov. S.G.W. His energies have also been largely attended with success on many occasions on behalf of the various Charities. The presentation was made in the absence of Bro. C. Bennion, in America, by Bro. E. Holmes, P.M., Prov. G. Sec., who, in making it, said: Mr. Mayor and Bro. Marshall, on behalf of the brethren of St. John's Lodge I have to ask your acceptance of this portrait and illuminated address as a token of the esteem and high regard in which you have been held by the brethren. To see in them a token of sincere congratulation on your election as Mayor of this town and our earnest hopes for your future welfare and also that of the Mayoress and your family. It is in this, God bless you now and ever spirit, in which, in the name of the lodge, I offer you this portrait and address. Bro. Holmes expressed the hope that the Hall Committee would permit the portrait to hang on the walls of the hall, and that in the distant future coming generations of Masons, including, we hope, your children's children, will be reminded that in this year of grace there was a W. Bro. J. Herbert Marshall, who, in addition to holding high Masonic rank, was Mayor of Leicester, and that the mark of confidence shown in him by the governing body of the town was only eclipsed by the closer ties of fraternal esteem and affection felt for him by the brethren of St. John's Lodge.



BRO. J. HERBERT MARSHALL, J.P., P.M.

Bro. Marshall, who was very warmly greeted, in words of much emotion thanked Bro. Holmes for the kind words he had addressed to him, and to the brethren for this overwhelming mark of their fraternal regard. He hoped that for many years he might be spared to be amongst them, and that those years would bring added ties of brotherly esteem and affection. He felt proud indeed that the choice of himself to the civic office he held should be so warmly appreciated by his brethren of that lodge. He was quite unable to give utterance to the deep feeling that presentation had worked within him, and could only say a heartfelt thank you. He, in accepting the portrait, hoped that the Hall Committee would permit it to hang on the walls within which they were gathered, and its presence there would always be to him a reminder of that proud day when his brethren so highly honoured him.

The portrait, a most excellent one, is the work of Bro. Frank Brown, 279. The address, beautifully illuminated by Bro. G. S. Callow, P.M. 50, is as follows:

"At a meeting of St. John's Lodge of Free Masons, 279, Leicester, held on the 2nd day of December, 1896, it was unanimously resolved to present W. Bro. J. Herbert Marshall, J.P., P.M. 279 and 1007, P.P.S.G.W., Vice-Patron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a portrait of himself, to be hung in Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, and this illuminated address, in token of the high regard and esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and in commemoration of his unanimous election as Mayor of Leicester, 1896-7."

The address is bound in a crimson morocco album, most tastefully ornamented, and forming a very handsome volume, the work of Bro. A. Tacey, S.W. 2081.

A portrait was also presented by the W.M., on behalf of St. John's Lodge, to Bro. James Tanser, Tyler, who, owing to his advanced age, has resigned his various Masonic appointments. Bro. Tanser has for very many years been the Tyler of the Provincial Grand Lodge, of the St. John's Lodge, and other lodges in Leicester, and has always been held in the highest esteem by the brethren.

After other business the lodge was closed.

The brethren subsequently partook of supper in the dining room, under the presidency of the W.M., who was there also supported by a gathering of brethren to the number of more than 70.

Scientific Lodge, No. 88.

The W.M., Bro. W. Sindall, had an excellent start in his work last Monday evening, when he initiated four candidates, viz., Messrs. G. P. Hawkins, W. H. Heal, J. D. Dawson, and Richard Whicello. The last-named is a Cambridge man now on a visit to his native town, from his adopted home in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The charge to the newly-initiated was most impressively delivered by Bro. Thos. Nichols, P.M., P.P.S. G.W. Bro. W. H. Whitehead (who was initiated in the Blackall Lodge, Queensland) was elected a joining member. The annual subscription to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was voted.

The evening was passed in true Masonic harmony, and the initiates said they were never likely to forget the day, and especially the charge as given by Bro. Nichols.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst., when there were present Bros. R. Sarson, W.M.; C. Garton, J.W.; T. Cohu, P.M., Treas.; H. Legge, P.M., Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; Rev. T. Selby Henrey, J.D. and Chap.; Jas. Smith, D.C.; J. G. Robeson, I.G.; T. Stokes, A.D.C.; Couchman, Tyler; Fisher, I.P.M.; Mower, P.M.; Groves, P.M.; Abbott, P.M.; Hughes, P.M.; Peach, S. Rippin, Collins, A. J. Rippin, Farr, Lloyd, Dixon, Wetton, Purbrook, Roche, Doody, Pitt, Peirson, Lockett, and Williams. Bro. W. A. Griffiths, 1421, was a visitor.

Lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Purbrook was afterwards raised, and Mr. Henry Williams was initiated. The Secretary announced that he had received a letter from Bro. Holmes, S.W., resigning his membership of the lodge; this was accepted with much regret. Bro. Chas. Garton, J.W., was then unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Thos. Cohu, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The sum of £10 10s. was voted to a distressed brother, formerly a member of the lodge. The Secretary announced that the Board of Benevolence had granted £40 to Mrs. Guy, whose petition had been supported by this lodge. Bros. Peach, S. Rippin, and A. J. Rippin, were elected as Auditors at the forthcoming audit. Bro. Legge, Sec., gave notice of motion that the usual P.M.'s jewel be presented to the W.M., Bro. Sarson, on his retiring from the chair, and also that the sum of £10 10s. be placed on Bro. A. J. Rippin's list for the Girls' School. The lodge was closed. The names of four gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and one brother as a joining member.

Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127.

The annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of its Worshipful Master, was held on Tuesday last, at Mark Masons' Hall. There were present on the occasion the following brethren: Bros. Oscar Barrett, acting as W.M.; James Fernandez, P.M.; Thomas Catling, P.M.; Sir Henry Isaacs, P.M.; Robert Grey, P.G.W.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; James Thomson, S.C.; John Morgan, P.M. 1150; C. Martyn, P.A.G.D.C.; Wilkinson, Edward Terry, P.G. Treas.; Peter de Lande Long, T. H. Bolton, Ernest Flower, M.P.; R. G. Venables, P.A.G.D.C.; Capt. Williams Freeman, L. Southwell, P.P.G.S.W. Shropshire; F. Mead, P.G.S.B.; R. Clowes, P.G. Std. Br.; D. H. Langton, P.P.G.W. Sussex; Harry Nicholls, P.M.; J. H. Matthews, Pres. Bd. of Ben.; J. Strachan, O.C., P.P.G.W. Northumberland; C. L. Carson, I.P.M. Savage Club Lodge; March, H. Le Roy, Lewis, Major Henry Wright, P.M. 1827; Dr. Whitelaw Bourne, 10; E. Cotterell, Waring, 1827; J. E. A. Malone, 1609; W. B. Clarkson, H. G. Hibbert, A. D. Jackson, C. J. Phipps, Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Organist; Guy Repton, G. L. Munday, Captain Basil Hood, Walter Slaughter, H. P. Edwards, A. Rashleigh Phipps, H. P. Martyn, 1244; J. Laurence, P.M.; Arthur Marshall, C. T. Coggin, Sir A. Altman, S. R. J. Smith, J. Mantell, Neil Forsyth, W. G. Harvey, Lionel Rignold, A. May, Arthur Oswald, Charles Coote, Gen. Hale Wortham, Leigh Warner, H. Guarracino, J. Powell, Wilkinson, Sidney Jennings, F. B. Rendle, Walter Jennings, F. Knight, E. C. Sewell, J. Bruton, P.M.; D. Allworth, P.M.; Irvine, P.M.; Wavell, P.M.; Dalgetty Henderson, Walter Hedgecock, Park Goff, Captain Cecil Powney, E. S. Matthews, Col. C. H. T. Marshall, P.D.D.G.M. Punjab; Garnet Man, H. M. Worsley, A. G. Neville, A. Smythe, J. H. Barns, James Weaver, P.M. 1319; W. B. Kermack, the W.M. of 1319; Dr. Robson Roose, Dr. Tamplin, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Garthorne Grimston, C. H. Swanston, A. M. Reis, W. Wilson, E. W. Postans, P.M.; E. B. Holloway, P.M. 108; E. Roerich, J. Detmar, G. Landsberger, J. S. Fleming, Treas.; H. Scott, S.W. 34; J. H. Dale, P.M. 34; A. Dutton, P.M. 34; W. H. Glazier, P.M. 34; C. L. Reis, P.M.; E. H. Barwell, 42; Major H. W. H. Elwes, W. H. Cummings, L. Lablache, Herbert Budd, 1319; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; G. M. Maxwell, J. D. Beveridge, P.M. 2190; H. Nye Chart, C. J. Wharton, P.M. 706; W. J. Fisher, P.M. 2190; Col. F. E. Bennett, E. W. Braine, E. E. Lawford, Henry Williams, C. J. Archer, R. Kelsey, P.M.; J. C. Taylor, James Stephens, P.G.W. Bucks; S. Nowakowski, F. Bartlett, and A. B. Bennett.

Bro. Harry Nicholls, P.M., passed to the Second Degree Bros. E. E. Lawford and Leigh Warner. Bro. Henry Neville, the W.M. of the lodge, had been chosen to serve the office of W.M. for another year, Bro. W. E. Chapman, the W.M. elect, having gone to South Africa. The brethren were unable to elect the Junior Warden and install him before April, and as he was not a P.M., if he went out of office next February he would not have served 12 months as Master and would not be entitled to rank as a P.M. Bro. Henry Neville was not able to be present, he being on theatrical circuit at Northampton, and consequently there was no installation; but the following brethren were appointed the other officers: Bros. G. M. Maxwell, S.W.; Guy Repton, J.W.; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., Chap.; J. S. Fleming, Treas.; Harry Nicholls, P.M., Sec.; Lionel Rignold, S.D.; Col. A. B. Bennett, J.D.; Wm. Ganz, P.G.O., Org.; and J. Geddard, P.M., Tyler. After the addresses had been delivered, Bro. Oscar Barrett, in very complimentary terms, referred to the great services rendered to the lodge by Bro. J. H. Matthews, P.A.G.D.C., as Secretary of the lodge for the last nine years, which office he had just vacated, and mentioned the subject of a testimonial to him for his services. Bro. Matthews acknowledged in feeling terms the compliment paid to him by Bro. Oscar Barrett, and stated that he did not want any testimonial. If, however, the brethren wished to make such a presentation, he requested that it might not take the form of a jewel. Any amount which a testimonial would cost he would like to be presented in his name to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to banquet. The customary toasts followed. Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," said: It has been remarked by some illustrious foreigner that no public function in England can be held without the adjunct of eating and drinking. This year is the 60th of the reign of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria—a year which gives promise of being one of the most fruitful with regard to public gatherings. It would be very curious, if it were possible, to obtain a record of the number of times during the present year that her Majesty's health will be drunk in England and its Dependencies; but I venture to augur that at no celebration or meeting will her Majesty's health be drunk with more true loyalty and enthusiasm than at Masonic gatherings. This year as regards her Majesty is unique in the world's history. Let us, then, as Masons, with true fervour, drink to the most womanly of women, the most queenly of queens—her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., in proposing, "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," said, during the last few days, the reflective person must have been struck with admiration for our Most Worshipful Grand Master, who out of the chaos of the many well intentioned, but impracticable, and many absurd suggestions as to the means of commemorating the 60th year of his illustrious mother's reign, has hit upon the happy idea of the Hospital Fund for London. In his letter to the nation, he says, "It is a project lying very near my heart, its object being to attach the sentiment of gratitude for the blessings which the country has enjoyed during the last 60 years to a scheme of permanent beneficence." Herein, brethren, we may observe that our most Worshipful Grand Master is actuated by the grand principles on which our Order is founded—Brotherly Love and Relief—and that distinctive characteristic of a Mason—Charity. Later on he says, "The efforts of individual Institutions, competing with one another, have not availed to enlist a large body of subscribers. I do not believe that this arises from any real indifference; but partly from the difficulty of choosing an object of interest among so many, partly from the lack of any definite opportunity for giving annual subscriptions to the cause as a whole, and partly from the feeling that small sums are not worth contributing." Now, brethren, before drinking the health of our Most

Worshipful Grand Master, I would venture to suggest, that we as Masons, assist him to the realization of that project, which he says "Lies so near his heart." I have little doubt that lodges throughout the Kingdom will most liberally subscribe to this end; but to show what small contributions mean, I would suggest that at every installation banquet a subscription limited to one shilling a head should be made. I venture to propose that we start this evening—for he gives twice who gives quickly.

Bro. Thomas Catling, P.M., proposed "The Pro G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said that it was always a pleasure to have the presence of Grand Officers; but amongst the members of Drury Lane were many Grand Officers. He called on Bro. E. Terry, P.G.T., to respond.

Bro. Edward Terry, P.G.T., said that as "on their own merits modest men were dumb," he did not like to say much on that toast. The Grand Officers were always ready to do their duty and to show young Masons the right way to proceed on their Masonic career. To use another quotation he would say with regard to the Grand Officers

If to their share some trivial errors fall,
Look in their face, and you'll forget them all.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., then announced that the Charity box had yielded £5 3s. and he proposed to send the amount to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund. He then said he was sure all the brethren would agree with him that although the W.M. was absent they would all drink his health with no less enthusiasm than if he was present. He regretted Bro. Neville was on circuit—not the circuit known in the law, but in the dramatic way, thank goodness. (Laughter.) He said thank goodness, because he had certain feelings with regard to the law. He was reminded by Sir Henry Isaacs that the law happened to be represented on the present occasion by Bro. Strachan, O.C., and Bro. Bolton; but, joking apart, the W.M. was on circuit in Northampton, but though absent in body, he was present in heart, and at the present moment was remembering the brethren. At the last two installation banquets, Bro. Neville had not been able to be present.

The toast was most enthusiastically received.

Bro. T. H. Bolton proposed "The Past Masters," naming Bro. Oscar Barrett, who was in the chair, Bros. Sir Henry Isaacs, James Fernandez, Thomas Catling, and Harry Nicholls. To all those brethren the lodge owed a deep debt of gratitude, as to them was due the perfection to which the working of the lodge had attained.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it was exceedingly kind to couple his name with this toast. The position the Drury Lane Lodge was placed in that day was rather peculiar. The W.M. elect was, from unforeseen circumstances, abroad. Then the W.M., who should have been I.P.M., was away on business engagements. It was a unique position for the lodge to be placed in, for a P.M. to have to occupy the chair. But having so many able assistants around him, they had been able to get through the duties of the lodge, at least, if not quite so satisfactorily as he could have wished. (Yes, yes.) He hoped the brethren would pardon him. He was not one of those men who did not know their own imperfections; he knew his imperfections, and, another thing, he was not ashamed to say he knew them, and that the brethren knew them too; and he emphasized them. But to resume from where he was interrupted—there was one thing in the dramatic world, as they were all aware, that in a well-ordered theatre it was necessary to have understudies. He looked upon it that that day they had had a number of understudies; but he was sure he was himself delighted with one understudy. He could not let that opportunity pass without expressing what he felt when he installed his successor. When the addresses had to be given in the lodge, he thought them beautiful, but he was afraid he should not get through them; he strove, and he did get through them; but he never knew until that evening how he utterly failed as compared with what he saw could be made of the final address when he listened to Bro. Fernandez. There was something more than religious fervour in it; there seemed to be an inspiration in it; it was glorious; that was all he could say, and he only wished that he personally had proved as good an understudy as Bro. Fernandez. When they found the lodge placed in the position it had been put in that day all the P.Ms. rallied round, and all assisted. He saw his old friend, Harry Nicholls, do the passing, so that they had all been in the work itself. With such brethren, always able to take up any work, whatever emergency might happen, and always willing and desirous to maintain the proud position of the lodge in the Masonic world, there was no fear for its future.

Bro. Sir Henry Isaacs, P.M., P.G.W., having proposed "The Visitors,"

Bro. Strachan, O.C., P.P.G.S.W. Northumberland, responded, and said if a visit to a lodge was to be enjoyed and fully appreciated, commend him to the hospitality of the Drury Lane Lodge. They had seen how the brethren of the profession gave their musical services, and the performance of Bro. Beveridge in lodge would never be forgotten. Personally he felt rather like Rip Van Winkle after 20 years' absence, because it was exactly 20 years since he left his mother lodge, the Asaph, to go to the Catskill Mountains of Northumberland, where he was visited by some demons, who were very pleasant demons, Bros. Edward Terry, Johnny Toole, Charlie Stevenson, and some other boys, to go out with them, and have a Bohemian night. But now he was back in London. Bro. Barrett, when he found he had returned, sent him an invitation to the Drury Lane Lodge installation, and when he looked around and saw so many old friends, it seemed to him that he was back in the Junior Garrick Club. He had had a most pleasant evening. He was very glad to come back and be among his old professional brethren again. Although he was associated with a certain other profession of which Bro. Barrett had such a horror—he did not know why; but it was quite unnecessary—he was glad to be associated with members of the dramatic profession. He never gave up his old associations with the drama, for on his return to London the first thing he did was to rejoin his mother lodge—the Asaph.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., proposed "The Officers," and told those brethren that the success and the future of the lodge depended on the officers. When the Past Masters went the way of all flesh, to the officers was left the legacy of keeping the lodge going. He was sure the officers who had been appointed that day would continue to persevere in maintaining the standard of excellence the lodge had held up to the present time.

Bros. Maxwell, S.W., and Guy Repton, J.W., responded, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

St. Mark's College Lodge, No. 2157.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday, the 15th ult., when Bro. John Stanton, W.M., presided over a very large gathering, including Bros. A. Streeter, S.W., W.M. elect; J. Longhurst, J.W.; R. H. Catling, I.P.M.; John O'Connell, P.M., P.P.G.O., P.P.J.G.D. Surrey; J. Easterbrook, P.M.; W. R. Carter, P.M., P.P.G.S. Herts; A. P. Lye, P.M.; J. R. Phillips, P.M.; G. W. Stevens, P.M. 1815; A. G. Fleming, P.M. 382, P.P.D.G.D.C. Middx.; Rev. G. W. Gent, Chap.; Rev. C. J. Smith, Asst. Chap.; Rev. J. Henry Smith, P.M., P.P.G.C. Leicestershire and Rutland, Treas.; T. Simpson, Sec.; J. Parry, J.D.; R. West, D.C.; H. R. Elkin, I.G.; L. H. Walker, Org.; T. Ganning and E. W. Cox, Stewards; E. H. Hutchins, F. Handel Thompson, H. Milbank-Smith, Hamlet Kinsey, Edgar Sainsbury, J. W. Jarvis, T. E. Cattell, H. Mangham, E. R. Cleave, G. B. Fluke, W. G. Mortlock, Rev. J. R. W. Thomas, F. Jackson, John West, H. I. Whitehouse, G. Francis, G. H. Heathcote, F. W. Cox, Henry Carr, G. H. Poulton, F. J. Lovell, A. H. Waller, J. H. Gamble, C. Stanton, Edwin Sainsbury, and J. J. Shakespeare. Visitors: Bros. J. Boulton, G.P. Eng.; T. Skewes-Cox, M.P., P.G.S. Eng.; Rev. Langton S. Calvert, P.G.C. West Yorks; Rev. Edwd. Houndle, P.P.G.C. Surrey; J. R. Cleave, P.J.G.D. Surrey; R. Sebastian Hart, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey; H. W. Clemow, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks; E. Clare, P.P.A.G.D.C. Middx.; J. Andrews, P.G. Std. Br. Surrey; T. Montague, P.P.G.P. Surrey; E. G. Feild, P.M., Sec. 1362; A. W. G. Weekes, P.M., D.C. 3; R. J. Hennings, W.M. 2508; W. B. Cockram, 102; J. Parsons, P.M. 1564; W. Ulrich, 2467; J. Appleton, W.M. 2398; R. Hendy, 1767; Lewis Beale, Stwd. 1767; W. B. Neville, P.M. 1767; A. J. T. Tate, S.W. 201; E. G. Wilson, J.W. 2422; J. Lewarne, D.C. 865; W. J. Boeche, 2046; Wm. Salt, Stwd. 889; E. H. Bury, 1471; D. Hills, W.M. 185; E. Carrick, I.P.M. 1178; H. A. Howe, W.M. 1362; Wm. Turner Wynn, S.D. 1643; G. R. Scott, S.W. 889; J. Campbell, 1507; J. Kirby, Stwd. 1953; G. H. Silverwood, S.D. 1343; and G. Griffin, P.M. 1555.

Lodge was opened, and after the minutes had been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Bros. H. Milbank-Smith and Hy. Carr were passed to the Second Degree. The W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Streeter, was then presented to the W.M. and duly installed, and, having been proclaimed and saluted in the Three Degrees, he proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bro. John Stanton, I.P.M.; J. Longhurst, S.W.; W. T. Thompson, J.W.; the Rev. G. W. Gent, Chap.; the Rev. C. J. Smith, Asst. Chap.; the Rev. J. Henry Smith,

P.M., P.P.G.C. Leicestershire and Rutland, Treas.; T. Simpson, Sec.; Jos. Parry S.D.; H. R. Elkin, J.D.; John O'Connell, P.M., P.P.G. Org., P.P.J.G.D. Surrey D.C.; R. West, A.D.C.; Leo H. Walker, I.G.; A. G. Fleming, P.M. 382, P.P.D. G.D.C., Org.; T. Gunning and E. W. Cox, Stwds.; and J. Whiteman, Tyler. The first and second addresses were delivered by Bro. John Stanton, I.P.M., and the third by Bro. the Rev. J. Henry Smith, P.M., Treas., and then the anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is" was sung by the brethren. The W.M. presented a Past Master's jewel to Bro. John Stanton, I.P.M. and Installing Master, as a token of the respect, esteem, and affection in which he is universally held by the brethren and also as a memento of a very successful year of office. Two candidates for initiation and two joining members having been proposed, lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to the Caledonian Room, where an excellent banquet was served in the well-known style of the Holborn Restaurant.

After the "Non Nobis, Domine" had been sung, the brethren were photographed, and the W.M. proceeded to propose the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were received with enthusiasm.

In submitting "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. read letters from Bros. Lord George Hamilton, Prov. G.M. Middx., and E. Letchworth, G. Sec., regretting their inability to be present.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. John O'Connell, P.M., D.C., and responded to by Bros. Rev. L. S. Calvert, Prov. G.C. West Yorks; Rev. E. Houndle, P.P.G.C. Surrey; J. R. Cleave, Prov. J.G.D. Surrey; Jas. Appleton, W.M. 2398; and G. Griffin, P.M. 1555.

The Tyler's toast brought a most successful and enjoyable evening to a close.

The musical items were rendered by the brethren of the lodge, under the direction of Bro. Rev. J. Henry Smith, P.M., Treas. In addition to songs and part songs, a distinct feature of the programme was the singing of glee by all the assembled brethren.

Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432.

A regular meeting was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, on Thursday, the 28th ulto. Present: Bros. W. Klingenstein, P.M., W.M.; D. Phillips, I.P.M.; W. H. Lowry, S.W.; W. F. Bates, J.W.; G. Ransford, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Treas.; W. H. Bullock, Sec.; C. H. J. Ransford, S.D.; T. Rayner, J.D.; Geo. Emblin, D.C.; H. Cosins, I.G.; R. Ambler and A. S. Benjamin, Stewards; A. Pringle, P.M.; H. Evenden, Tyler; H. Custance, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Berks; Van Gelder, Steven, Moore, Grahner, Lightfoot, Buckingham, Atkins, Bessie, Winter, Pearson, and Atter. Visitors: Bros. Dreyfus, I.G. 73; Welsford, I.P.M. 1321; Wilson, S.D. 2202; Pettman, 134; and A. Klingenstein, 1540.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. John Bessie, and he was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry in a most masterly way by the W.M., who completed the ceremony by giving the Antient Charge, a desirable course, which will always be followed in the lodge while it is under the gavel of the present W.M.

A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and there being no further business lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Here the W.M. presided over the proceedings with his usual geniality, and all did ample justice to the good things provided to them by that doyen of caterers, Bro. Blackley, the hotel manager.

The usual toasts were given and duly honoured, and the brethren settled down to the enjoyment of a musical evening, several of the lodge members and visitors contributing to the harmony. The ladies' night was fixed for the 25th inst.

Royal Arch.

Union Waterloo Chapter, No. 13.

The installation meeting of the above grand old chapter—now in its 70th year of age—took place on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, when Comps. J. Matthey was installed as M.E.Z.; H. W. Keeble, as H.; and G. H. Porter, as J. The following were invested as officers: Comps. J. Kennedy, P.Z., S.E.; W. J. Crowdy, S.N.; Capt. G. Spinks, P.Z., Treas.; H. Crowdy, P.S.; A. McQueen, 1st A.S.; and J. T. Taylor, 2nd A.S. Comp. Kennedy, M.E.Z., opened the chapter, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, vacated the chair in favour of Comp. A. Penfold, L.C.C., P.Z., P.Z. 913 and 1472, P.P. 1st A.G.S., who, by special request, assumed the office of Installing Officer, and in grand style installed the Principals as above. As this was the second time Comp. Kennedy had filled the first chair, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his services during the past year, and he returned thanks. A cordial vote of thanks was presented to Comp. Penfold for his services as Installing Officer that day, and he suitably returned thanks. Various sums of money were (as is customary in this district and at this season of the year) voted to the local Charities, and then the chapter was closed.

The companions banqueted at the Earl of Chatham Hotel, Thomas-street, Woolwich, and were delighted at the capital menu provided for and served to them by Bro. G. Cashfield, the esteemed host.

Among the other companions present were Comps. C. H. Canning, P.Z., P.Z. 1472; R. J. Warren, P.Z., P.Z. and Treas. 1437, P.Z. and Treas. 1472, P.P.G.P.S. Essex; G. W. King, P.Z., Stewart, Gable, and G. Williams, all of the chapter; Garrison-Quartermaster Sergeant Shackleton, J. 1789; H. Turton, 913; and C. Jolly P.Z. 913, 1472, M.E.Z. 2184, and P.G. Std. Br. Essex.

The usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts having been duly honoured, the M.E.Z. gave the toast of "The Installing Officer" (as Comp. Penfold had shortly to retire to attend an important parochial meeting), and he said they had heard in open chapter the splendid eulogium passed upon their esteemed Comp. Penfold by Comp. Tailby, when he proposed the vote of thanks so enthusiastically tendered to that distinguished companion and excellent Mason. For many years past, and almost in succession, Comp. Penfold had acted as their Installing Officer, and that afternoon he had, if possible, surpassed himself in the performance of the beautiful service entrusted to his care. For himself, and on behalf of the Second and Third Principals he thanked Comp. Penfold, and wished him many years of health and ability yet to enable him to continue Installing Officer of the Union Waterloo Chapter.

Comp. Penfold, whose many services in the cause of Freemasonry, Craft, Arch, and Mark, in this district has made his name "a household word" among the lodges and chapters there, was received with cheers as he rose to respond. He said it was a pleasure to him to be present, and he should have regretted it had he not been able to do so and perform the ceremony of installation. Their grand old chapter was now in its 70th year of existence, having been consecrated in the year 1827, and that fact afforded them all a deal of pleasure, and especially so to have their names inscribed on the rolls of such an ancient and honourable chapter. It was some 30 years ago since he joined Masonry, he had no idea, of course, of assisting at the centenary of their chapter, but there were some of the younger members who when they had had their 30 years in Masonry, might reasonably hope to be present at its centenary festival. He felt that during the coming year, the chapter had, under its present M.E.Z., every prospect of a prosperous year, and that under the rule of Comp. Matthey, the chapter would lose none of its ancient prestige. It had withstood the wreck of time and was now in a flourishing condition, and he trusted that state of affairs would long continue. So far as his services as Installing Officer were concerned, he could only say that so long as they were wanted, so long would he endeavour to place them at the disposal of the chapter. He would like to see one of the younger P.Zs. prepare himself to do the work, for, of course, he could not be expected to last for ever; however, as long as he was wanted and was able to do the work, so long would his services be at their disposal. Their good companion and brother resumed his seat amid hearty cheers.

Comp. Kennedy, P.Z., proposed the toast of "M.E.Z.," whom he declared to have in him the makings of a first class First Principal; who would bring good candidates into the chapter. Unfortunately he (Comp. Kennedy) during his year of office, had not had many opportunities of introducing candidates, but in the mother lodge, of which Comp. Matthey was a P.M., there were a number of good Masons, who he felt sure would follow Comp. Matthey's lead, and join the ranks of their grand old chapter. He asked them to drink the toast in bumpers.

Comp. Matthey, in response, said he certainly should follow the advice of Comp. Kennedy, and strive to bring some good candidates into the chapter; he had two or

three excellent brethren in his eye, who he felt sure would join them during the forthcoming year. He trusted his Second and Third Principals would do all they could in the same direction. For their kind reception of the toast of his health, he heartily thanked them.

Comp. Keeble, in responding for "The Second and Third Principals," said he was deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon him by the companions in electing him to the elevated position of H., and felt that the excellent sentiments expressed in their esteemed Installing Officer's speech had made a deep impression on his mind. He trusted they would have a goodly number of worthy candidates, and so keep up the strength and prestige of that grand old chapter.

Comps. Jolly, Shackleton, and Turton responded for "The Visitors," and Comps. Spinks, Warren, and King for "The Past M.E.Zs."

"The Officers" and the Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings, which were interspersed with some excellent singing and reciting.

Moira Chapter, No. 92.

A meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., when there were present Comps. Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., M.E.Z.; G. Greiner, H.; E. D. Oppert, J.; J. L. Wilkinson, P.Z., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.Z.; Wickham Noakes, P.Z.; Bertram Noakes, P.Z., S.E.; and J. M. Mitchell, P.Z. Comp. W. G. Poole, P.Z. 860, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last convocation having been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A ballot was then taken for Bro. the Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, W.M. 92, which proving satisfactory, he was duly exalted into the mysteries and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. The sum of £5 was next voted to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, after which, there being no further business, the chapter was closed and the companions dined together under the presidency of the M.E.Z.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

A meeting of this chapter was held on Friday evening, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, when there were present Comps. J. Constable, P.G.O., M.E.Z.; C. Goldthorpe, H.; W. Fretwell, J.; F. Webb, I.P.Z.; F. Rand, P.P.G.T.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; J. Fitzgerald, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; R. Brew, A.S.; J. H. Pawson, S. B. Castle, and W. Richardson, Janitor.

After the chapter was opened, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year, viz.: Comps. C. Goldthorpe, M.E.Z.; J. W. Fretwell, H.; J. Fitzgerald, J.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; G. B. Castle, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; J. Mason and W. Richardson, Janitors. A Committee was appointed to arrange for the installation banquet on the 26th prox.

Pattison Chapter, No. 913.

A convocation of the above excellent chapter took place on Thursday, the 21st ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, under the presidency of Comps. G. F. Taylor, M.E.Z.; C. J. Clapham, P.Z., acting H.; and Sidney Horton, J.; assisted by the following Comps. A. Penfold, P.Z., P.Z. 13 and 1472, and P.P.G. 1st Asst. S.; H. J. Butler, P.Z., Scribe E., P.P.G.P.S.; H. Mason, P.Z., P.P.G.S.; E. B. Hobson, P.Z., P.P.G. Org.; E. Morris, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; W. C. Campbell, P.Z., P.G.S.B.; J. H. Roberts, P.Z., P.P.G.S.; C. Jolly, P.Z., P.Z. 1472, M.E.Z. 2184, P.G. Std. Br. Essex; J. Turton, S.N.; J. O. Cook, P.S.; G. H. Letton, M.E.Z. 1472, 1st. Asst. S.; J. A. Stretton, B. Hammond, G. Hall, W. G. Squires, G. Frost, D. Campbell, L. Chasteaneuf, E. Carter, H. Turton, J. D. Brooks, W. Crawford, P.Z. 420, P.P.G.D.C.; and W. Long, 2184.

Bro. Kelley, 700, having been regularly balloted for and approved, was duly exalted to the Supreme Degree. Various sums were, as usual at this season of the year, voted to the various local charities. Five guineas was voted to Earl Amherst's list for the purpose of a memorial window at Canterbury Cathedral, and then the chapter was closed.

The companions banqueted in Comp. Hall's fine assembly room, at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich, and were splendidly served.

The usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were drunk as they should be. Comps. Campbell and Taylor in responding to the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," spoke enthusiastically of the splendid services rendered both Craft and Royal Arch, by their Grand Superintendent Earl Amherst, and next by Comp. J. S. Eastes, G.H., D.P.G.M.

Some fine singing by Comps. Hobson, G. F. Taylor, and Bro. Ireland, accompanied by Miss Taylor, the talented daughter of the M.E.Z., was much enjoyed.

Star Chapter, No. 1275.

The installation meeting of this very popular and flourishing chapter was held at the Guildhall Tavern, on the 26th ultimo. Present: Comps. H. W. P. Makeham, M.E.Z.; Wm. Eckersall, H., M.E.Z. elect; C. H. Stone, P.Z., J.; Woolmer Williams, P.Z., Treas.; Thos. Grumman, P.Z., S.E.; J. S. Targett, P.S.; Wm. R. Barr, 1st A.S.; H. Hardman, 2nd A.S.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.Z., D.C.; C. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor; C. Meierhoff, P.Z.; G. B. Benedetti, P.Z.; J. Addington, P.Z.; G. S. Elliott, P.Z.; Carl T. Fleck, P.Z.; H. F. Crook, P.Z.; J. H. Witty, Angelico Cogliati, W. H. Smith, and Otto Wartmann. Visitors: Comps. R. J. Voisey, P.Z., S.E. 1329; B. Morgan, M.E.Z. 1901; R. W. Benns, 507; and Carlo Grassi, M.E.Z. 1900; and Bros. C. H. Mayo, 1622, and C. W. Stone, S.D. 507.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Otto Wartmann, 1559, which proving unanimous, he was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry in a perfect manner by Comp. T. Grumman. The lectures were most ably rendered by Comps. Grumman, as M.E.Z.; Wm. Eckersall, as H.; and C. H. Stone, as J. The installations were next proceeded with—Comp. W. Eckersall, as M.E.Z., by Comp. C. H. Stone, P.Z.; Comp. W. R. Barr, as H. (by dispensation), by Comp. W. Eckersall; and Comp. H. Hardman, J., by Comp. T. Grumman. The M.E.Z. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. W. Williams, P.Z., Treas.; Thos. Grumman, P.Z., S.E.; W. H. Smith, S.N.; J. H. Witty, P.S.; Wyatt, 1st A.S.; Lindsey, 2nd A.S.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.Z., D.C.; and C. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor. The Auditors' report was received and adopted, showing the chapter to be in a sound financial position. Comp. Wm. Eckersall next presented, in the name of the chapter, the Past Principal's jewel to Comp. H. W. P. Makeham on his retirement from the chair, as a mark of esteem for his valuable services. This was most gratefully received and responded to by Comp. H. W. P. Makeham, I.P.Z. A letter of condolence was unanimously agreed to be sent to Comp. Fry, an old and esteemed member of the chapter, upon the loss of his wife.

The business of the convocation ended, the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, personally superintended by Comp. J. Marchant, which gave every satisfaction.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the M.E.Z. gave the usual customary loyal and R.A. toasts with most befitting eulogiums, which were responded to most royally. That also of "The G.Z., G.H., and G.J.," with the rest of the Grand Officers," received its just meed of praise.

In rising to present the toast of "The M.E.Z.," Comp. H. W. P. Makeham, I.P.Z., said it was the first time he had had the honour of doing so to one who was so worthy. All knew his capabilities, and the manner in which he had performed the ceremony, as also the installation of H. that evening, was a convincing proof that whatever duty devolved upon him it was sure to be done in an excellent manner. He was most happy to propose the toast, and wished the M.E.Z. health, happiness, and a prosperous year of office.

Comp. W. Eckersall, M.E.Z., expressed his hearty thanks for the proposal and acceptance of the toast to his health, which had not been very good. Hence he felt his shortcomings somewhat, and was not able to attend lately so frequently at the Star Chapter of Instruction, under so able a Preceptor as Comp. Thos. Grumman, P.Z. However, it would be his endeavour to perform the duties of Z. to the best of his ability, and he was confident he should have the punctual attendance and the same hearty and cheerful support of the officers, which had been one of the chief characteristics of the Star Chapter.

The M.E.Z. in eloquent terms presented the toast of "The Exalte," recommended by two such excellent sponsors was sufficient guarantee of the worthiness of the companion.

In reply, Comp. Otto Wartmann said he had been very greatly impressed by the beautiful ritual, and felt quite at home in seeing the faces of such excellent companions around him. His one aim would be to prove his worthiness.

In presenting the toast of "The Visitors," the M.E.Z. dilated upon the excellent virtues possessed by them, although not a large number. The chapter greeted them most cordially.

Comp. R. J. Voisey, in reply, stated the great pleasure it gave him at the very kind invitation of Comp. Benedetti, P.Z., to attend, and not for the first time. He remembered the chapter at its former home at Greenwich, and congratulated it upon the excellence of its work, which could not be wondered at, while under such a Preceptor as Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z. Their hospitality too was most warm and cordial.

Comp. Carlo Grassi, M.E.Z. 1900, although an old P.M. of the New Cross Lodge, and so well known, stated that it was his first visit, and it gave him the greatest pleasure to attend and witness such splendid working which had greatly impressed him.

The M.E.Z. in proposing the toast of "The H. and J.," stated he had two excellent co-Principals. Of Comp. Barr, he was already doing suitable service in another chapter as J., and Comp. H. Hardman, J., had been associated with the M.E.Z. for so many years, that all had great hopes of him, and all knew his value.

Comp. R. Barr, H., in reply, stated, with the very kind suffrages of the companions he had made rapid promotion. Certainly it was his ambition to aspire to the first chair. His heart was in Royal Arch Masonry, and he greatly interested himself in its cause. His endeavour would be to give entire satisfaction, and earn any future promotion by merit.

Comp. H. Hardman, J., stated that he was greatly honoured by the position, and so soon after his attaching himself to the Star Chapter. He was indeed in need of instruction, which had been given him so ably by Comp. Voisey, who initiated him 16 years ago, and also by Comp. Grummant at the chapter of instruction, which he would attend as regularly as possible to enable him to discharge the duties appertaining to the chairs.

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The P.Zs.," of whom there were 11 present, thereby showing their tower of strength to the chapter, and for which he felt greatly honoured. They were always ready, and cheerfully performed any duty so that the working of the chapter should maintain its high standard of merit.

Comp. Chas. Meierhoff, P.Z., in reply, paid a very high compliment to the M.E.Z. and the younger officers who were coming forward and doing their work so ably through the instrumentality of the excellent chapter of instruction, at which they were very fairly regular attendants. The Past Principals were grateful for the cordial reception of their toast, and promised hearty support during the coming year to uphold the prestige of the chapter.

The toast of "The Treasurer and S.E." was most ably tendered by the M.E.Z. who eulogised them as two most excellent and capable officers, and to whom the chapter was very greatly indebted.

Comp. Woolmer Williams, P.Z., Treas., replied. He was proud of the position of Treasurer, and also as senior Past Principal and one of the founders. He hoped to live for many years and be honoured as its Treasurer, and pledged himself to guard the funds most carefully and also to assist in any other office he was called upon to perform. For so cordial a greeting he heartily thanked the companions.

Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z., S.E., very heartily thanked the M.E.Z. for his kind reference to his services, which were always most readily and cheerfully given. It had given him very great pleasure indeed during the past year under Comp. Dr. Makham, who was now exalted to the rank of Past Principal; also that he was proud to see the brethren of the New Cross Lodge honouring the chapter in their coming members. A great pleasure also to him was the admission of Bro. Otto Wartmann—now companion—and from appearances he foresaw a very bright future before the chapter, and hoped the present would be a record year.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of "The Officers" in congratulatory and complimentary terms, which was most ably responded to by Comp. Witty, P.S.

The Janitor's toast closed a most successful and happy convocation.

A capital programme of music was arranged under the direction of Bro. C. H. Mayo, most ably supported by Comps. Voisey, Grummant, C. H. Stone, and Barr, and Bros. C. H. Mayo and C. W. Stone. Bro. C. H. Mayo ably presided at the piano.

St. Dunstan's Chapter, No. 1589.

A meeting of this chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 14th ult. Among those present were Comps. R. Evens, M.E.Z.; H. Clemow, P.Z., H.; W. Farrington, J.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; J. W. Gaze, P.Z., Treas.; and W. H. Nuding, I.P.Z. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Comps. Phillips, S.N.; F. Farrington, P.Z.; W. E. Farrington, P.Z.; T. Farthing, P.Z.; and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed, when a few toasts were given and duly honoured, the proceedings terminating at an early hour.

Æsculapius Chapter, No. 2410.

A convocation was held at the Criterion on Wednesday, the 13th ult., when the following Principals and officers were elected for the ensuing year: Comps. Thomas Dutton, M.D., M.E.Z.; J. Pickett, M.D., H.; G. Crauford Thomson, M.D., J.; E. H. Ezard, M.D., D.Sc., S.E.; Montagu Simpson, S.N.; H. Bradshaw, P.S.; H. J. Sharpe, 1st A.S.; J. Davies, M.D., 2nd A.S.; J. Brindley James, P.Z., D.C.; and R. T. Hacker Bodilly, Steward. A P.Z.'s jewel was voted for Comp. Kiallmark, P.Z., for the able manner he had presided over the chapter during his year of office. After some formal business had been transacted, the chapter was closed.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. Butcher, W.M.; Kinipple, S.W.; Graham, J.W.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Meadows, Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; the Rev. Selby-Henry, J.D.; Robeson, I.G.; Harris, P.M.; Ruse, P.M.; Shadler, P.M.; Spencer, Collins, Farr, Wise, Cuznor, Huckle, Dobbs, Stafford, Locket, Lloyd, and Greig, Deputy Preceptor.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, after which the ceremonies of initiation and installation were rehearsed. The lodge was then closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. M. Beedle, W.M.; J. Goldstein, S.W.; A. Butcher, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; A. Tidy, S.D.; H. Mullins, J.D.; B. Russell, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; W. Hancock, P.M.; L. Genese, A. Zeppenfeld, E. Bissell, J. Levy, J. Mason, G. A. Sturgess, J. Carnaby, H. Parker, C. Pinnell, Raphael, W. Colley, and J. Leather.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Raphael being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Levy being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Goldstein, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and Bro. Raphael, 2265, was elected a joining member. The lodge was closed.

A meeting was also held on the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. J. L. Goldstein, W.M.; A. A. Butcher, S.W.; H. E. Mullins, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; W. E. Wilby, P.M., and T. Smale, P.M., Secs.; F. A. Zeppenfeld, S.D.; C. Loram, J.D.; C. J. Pinnell, I.G.; W. Proctor, P.M., Tyler; H. C. Parker, L. G. Hammond, J. Levy, T. Mason, W. Cumberland, H. Raphael, and M. Beedle.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes were read. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Raphael being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees and resumed in the First. Bro. Cumberland, candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was resumed in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Cumberland being the candidate. The 4th Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. J. Thom, P.M. The W.M. rose for the first time and the dues were collected. At the second rising Bro. A. A. Butcher, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officer in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, when all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. E. J. Harrison, W.M.; C. Isler, S.W.; A. F. Hardymont, J.W.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Her's, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; S. Cload, S.D.; W. F. Roberts, J.D.; L. Danielsson, I.G.; G. J. Hansson, P.M.; J. Birks, C. C. Renaud, G. Yexley, C. Smith, W. Rapley, F. A. Johnson, and H. B. Harding, P.M.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. It was then called off and on, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Rapley being the candidate. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Yexley being the candidate. Bro. Isler was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., when there were present Bros. Mullins, W.M.; J. P. M. Marks, S.W.; Ashplant, J.W.; Stewart, Sec.; Tofts, S.D.; Swift, J.D.; Homer, I.G.; Long, Tyler; Fonseca, P.M.; Beach, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form. Bro. Mullins rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Tofts acting as candidate. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of investiture of officers, Bro. Swift acting as D.C. After which Bro. J. P. M. Marks, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st Section of the Lecture in his usual efficient manner, as also was the working of the 2nd Section by Bro. Smith, P.M., Preceptor. The W.M. rose for the first time. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bros. Mullins and Tofts were unanimously elected members of this lodge, and they suitably responded. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 5th inst. Present: Comps. Isaac Dunn, M.E.Z.; Lewis, H.; C. Plant, J.; T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., S.N.; Benedetti, P.Z., P.S.; Wills, North, Austin, Cass, and Hardman.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Austin personating the candidate. Comp. J. Austin, S.E. 1158, was elected a joining member. Comp. G. H. Lewis, H., was elected M.E.Z. for Friday, 19th inst.

The chapter was placed at the disposal of the M.E.Z., of the Sternisle Bennett Chapter, at the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Dunn, M.E.Z., for the very able manner he rehearsed the ceremony for the first time, and the chapter closed.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

Stewart Council, No. 16.

The installation meeting of this council was held on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at Mark Masons' Hall, when there were present Bros. A. Woodiwiss, W.M.; J. Hill, S.W.; Thos. Taylor, J.W.; J. Smith, S.D.; S. Kilpin, J.D.; C. Belton, P.M.; V. P. Wyatt, G. Chap.; R. Gowan, W. Briant, Major C. Woolmer Williams, W. Ryland, D. Adkins, W. J. Armitage, W. J. Ebbetts, C. F. Matier, Grand Sec.; W. Vincent, G.D.C.; Rob Voisey, W.M. Four Kings; and W. B. Cockburn, S.G.W.

The lodge was opened, the minutes read, and the Auditors' report received and adopted. Bro. C. F. Matier installed Bro. James Hill as W.M. in a most impressive manner. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers and worked the ceremonies of the Order of St. Lawrence, Knights of Constantinople and Red Cross of Babylon, in a very efficient manner. The ceremony of the Anointed High Priest was beautifully and correctly worked by the Grand Secretary, and the Lodge of St. Lawrence was resumed. The W.M. presented, in the name of the council, a beautifully-chased cigar case with the emblem of the Order engraved on it, stating that it was presented by the council to the I.P.M., Bro. A. Woodiwiss, as a mark of their esteem and of their appreciation of the manner in which he had conducted the work and business of the council during the past year. The council was then closed.

The council retired to the Freemasons' Tavern, where the usual toasts were proposed and received, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

The next regular meeting of this flourishing council will be held on the fourth Wednesday in June.

WEDNESDAY WAS the 57th anniversary of her Majesty's marriage with the late Prince Consort, which took place at St. James's Palace on the 10th February, 1840. The Queen has now been a widow over 35 years, the Prince Consort having died at Windsor on December 14th, 1861.

AT THE USUAL monthly meeting of the Governor and Committee of the Incorporated Society of Licensed Victuallers, held on the 2nd inst. at the Licensed Victuallers School, Upper Kennington-lane, Bro. Christopher Sims was unanimously elected Governor of the society for the ensuing year. The Governor-elect subsequently received the congratulations of his colleagues on the Committee, Past Governors, Past Officers, and other friends of the society, who promised him their cordial assistance in his work during his year of office, which will commence in April next.

What is the British Workman's ?

It is the Ideal Life Office—The Life Office of the People.

What its Business ?

Life Assurance—Ordinary and Industrial.

What the Secret of its Wonderful Success ?

The Equity and Liberality of its Terms.

What has it done ?

It has Popularised and Perfected Life Assurance.

What its Annual Income ?

It is rapidly approximating to Half-a-Million Sterling.

What its Rank ?

Though only 30 years old, it stands with respect to Premium Income the tenth in a list of British Life Offices.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE 100TH PERFORMANCE of Bro. Oscar Barrett's Drury Lane pantomime "Aladdin" will take place on Wednesday evening, the 24th inst., and not on the following day, as announced. The advanced booking being so great, it has been found necessary to give an extra matinee on Thursday next, the 18th inst.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WARWICK left Warwick Castle early in the week to spend a few days at 50, South Audley-street, which they have taken for the season.

THE DUKE OF Saxe-Coburg Gotha has been suffering from an attack of influenza, but we are glad to hear his Royal Highness is now progressing favourably towards recovery.

THE LADY MAYORESS will hold her first reception at the Mansion House, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., and other receptions will follow on the first and third Tuesdays of each succeeding month until further notice.

THE DUKE OF YORK paid a visit to the Admiralty on Monday, and later in the day, in company with the Duchess, visited Messrs. Reynolds and Co.'s Galleries, 33, St. James's-street, to view the large picture of her Majesty's ship Britannia.

A CHILDREN'S MUSICAL fairy play, entitled "Cinderella," will be performed under the patronage of the Duchess of Fife, at St. Cuthbert's Hall, Philbeach-gardens, Earl's Court, on Saturday, the 27th inst., in aid of the Clarence wing of St. Mary's Hospital.

BY DIRECTION OF THE Princess of Wales, two cheques have been sent to the Gordon Boy's Home and the British Home for Incurables, being the proceeds of the further sale of Canon Fleming's sermon on the occasion of the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has intimated her intention of being present at a grand morning concert which it is proposed, by the kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, to hold at Bridgewater House, St. James's, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., in aid of the St. Helena Hospital Home.

BROS. LORD GLENESK and W. Hayes Fisher, M.P., were among those who attended the first portion of the service in St. Jude's, South Kensington, in connection with the funeral service in Kensal Green Cemetery, on Saturday last, of Lieut.-Col. Villiers La Touche Hatton, formerly of the Grenadier Guards.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN and suite visited the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday evening last, and witnessed for the second time the performance of "Under the Red Rose." On Tuesday her Royal Highness and her daughter, Princess Victoria, concluded their sojourn at Buckingham Palace, and returned to Cumberland Lodge.

THE 54TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the London Orphan Asylum, Watford, will be celebrated at the Hotel Métropole on Monday, the 1st March. By way of fittingly commemorating the completion of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign, the Board of Management have resolved on admitting 60 orphan children at the election in June next.

A COLLISION OCCURRED near Stockport, on Saturday evening last, when the Derby train which leaves Marple at 6.20 p.m., ran into the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire train from Sheffield to Liverpool, while standing on the line at Brinnington Junction. The guard was hurt and so were several of the passengers, of whom two ladies were taken to the infirmary.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK OF GERMANY crossed over from Osborne to Portsmouth, on Monday specially for the purpose of visiting the Portsmouth Royal Sailors' Home, her Majesty inspected the whole establishment, but more particularly the cabins endowed by her son, the Emperor William, and which are respectively named the "Kaiser," and "Hohenzollern."

THE WILL OF Bro. Stephen Percival Norris, of Bournemouth, who died on December 3rd, was proved on the 30th ult., the value of the personal estate being £11,485 16s. 1d. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves upon trust to his brothers Charles Norris, Harry Norris, and Alfred Norris; his sisters, Margaret and Marion; and his niece Violet Eleanor Norris.

OWING TO A serious and extensive slip of rock at Shakespeare's Cliff, Dover, the Coastguard Station in that neighbourhood has had to be abandoned, and in all probability will be removed to the end of the Admiralty Pier. There have also been several similar slips between Margate and Ramsgate, huge masses of the cliff have been falling along the foreshore, while the picturesque footpath between Broadstairs and Ramsgate has disappeared entirely.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Major-General Clark, visited the Winter Exhibition at the New Gallery on Saturday morning last, for the purpose of inspecting the works of Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A. The Duke and Duchess of York having concluded their visit to the Queen, left Osborne on the same day for York House, St. James's, crossing over to Portsmouth on board the royal yacht Alberta. The young Princes of York are remaining with Her Majesty at Osborne.

BLOCK E of the depositories of Messrs. Maple and Co. at Camden Town was discovered to be on fire about 12 o'clock on Saturday night last, and so fierce was the conflagration that the Fire Brigade failed to obtain a mastery over the flames until late in the morning, notwithstanding that some 150 firemen with 40 engines were engaged. The upper part of Block F was destroyed, while the whole of Block E, where the fire originated, and its contents were consumed, as well as many small properties in the neighbourhood.

"THE FREE PARDON" at the Olympic Theatre having received that necessary "pulling together," the want of which is always more or less observable on first nights, is now attracting enthusiastic audiences. The sensation scene of the escape from Dartmoor in a downpour of real rain causes almost as much excitement as did the actual thing itself last Christmas. It is evident that the judgment of the new manageress, Miss Vane (Mrs. Charles Sugden), that good wholesome melodrama will always attract, is being more than justified by the steadily growing success of this excellent play, which bids fair to bring back all the Olympic's old-time popularity.

RARE VOLUMES.—Towards the end of the month, commencing on the 22nd inst., a five days' sale of valuable libraries will attract the book-hunter to Sotheby's auction rooms. Amongst many precious things in the catalogue may be noted the rare Kilmarnock edition of Burns, first editions of Walton's "Compleat Angler" (a copy of which recently sold for £415), and Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," and the four parts of that little paper dear to admirers of the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood, "The Germ," started in 1850, and containing contributions by the Rossettis, Holman Hunt, Madox Brown, Coventry Patmore, J. Colinson, and others.

BY WAY OF COMMEMORATING the 60th anniversary of the Queen's reign, a Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund for London has been commenced at the suggestion of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The Fund is intended to provide, by annual subscriptions, a sufficient sum to make good the deficiency of income which is required to keep pace with the expenditure. A strong and influential committee has been formed, and great hopes are entertained that the project will be successful. The *Daily Telegraph*, with a view to supporting it, has opened a "Shilling Branch," which is headed by Mr. Henry Lowenfeld, of the Prince of Wales Theatre, with a subscription of 100,000 shillings, our respected contemporary being set down for 20,000 shillings.

THE WILL OF Bro. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, of 25, Manchester-square, M.D., F.R.S., a native of Somerby, Leicestershire, who died on the 21st November last, aged 68 years, bears date January 1st, 1878, with codicils of the 25th July, 1895, and 19th August, 1896. His widow, Dame Mary Jolley Richardson, is the sole executrix, and to her the testator bequeaths such of his personal chattels as she may select. He bequeathed to Mrs. Caroline Susanna Berkeley, of Leicester, £6 per quarter during her life, and he bequeathed his patents, apparatus, manufactures, and substances of an inventive character to his son Bertram. Bro. Sir Benjamin Richardson left the residue of his property to Lady Richardson during her life, and subject to her life interest as to one-third to his son Bertram, as to one-third to his son Aubrey, and as to the remaining one-third in trust for his daughter Stella. The testator's personal estate has been valued at £7970 14s.

THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.—Down to Thursday night the Lord Mayor's Fund at the Mansion House amounted to £265,000, including a donation of £21 from Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark.

IT HAS BEEN definitively arranged that the Queen and Court will remove from Osborne to Windsor, on Monday, the 15th inst.

BRO. THE BARON DE RUSH has been elected a member of the British Commission of the Brussels International Exhibition this year.

BRO. ALDERMAN SIR DAVID EVANS, K.C.M.G., and Lady Evans have left London for the South of France, and will be away for about a month.

THE EARL OF STAMFORD will preside at the annual meeting of the Society for the Protection of Birds, which will be held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on Tuesday, the 23rd instant.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR OF IRELAND (Bro. Lord Ashbourne) will give a ball in Dublin on Tuesday, the 16th inst., when their Excellencies the Lord Lieutenant and Countess Cadogan will be present among the guests.

BRO. LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, who entered the Royal Navy 37 years ago completed his 51st year on Tuesday. It is expected that his lordship will return shortly from Egypt where he has been sojourning since Christmas.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.—The Goldsmiths' Company have determined to set aside the sum of £20,000 to found a charity for the relief of needy persons engaged in the gold and silver trades in the Metropolis.

IN OUR REPORT last week of the meeting of the Robert Burns Chapter, No. 25, the name of the Scribe E. was given as "Sand." It should have been "Land." We regret the error and have much pleasure in correcting it.

THE STAFF OF the Intelligence Department, Secretary's Office of the General Post Office, held their sixth annual dinner at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday evening last, under the presidency of the Superintendent of the section.

BRO. S. B. BANCROFT will give a reading on behalf of the Chelsea Hospital for Women at Stafford House—kindly lent for the purpose by the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland—on Tuesday, the 16th inst. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar will preside.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Maj.-Gen. Clarke, presented the certificates to the scholars and exhibitors appointed by the Technical Education Board of the London County Council, on Friday, the 5th inst., in the Queen's Hall, Langham-place.

BRO. W. R. MCCONNELL, Q.C., Chairman of the London County Sessions, was on Saturday night entertained at dinner at Liverpool by the officials, overseers, and agents of the City Revision Court, over which Bro. McConnell had presided for 28 years.

AT THE INSTALLATION MEETING of the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614—Bro. John Mayo, W.M.—held at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W., on Tuesday, the 9th inst., £5 5s. was unanimously voted to the M.W. Grand Master's Hospital Fund and £5 5s. to the Lord Mayor's Indian Famine Fund.

DR. NANSEN, the Arctic explorer, dined with the Savage Club on Saturday evening last, and met with a very hearty reception, it being the largest gathering of members ever held, with the exception of the meeting which was attended by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in 1882, when he was elected an honorary life member.

AMONG THOSE present at the memorial service for the late Sir Henry Edwards, formerly M.P. for Weymouth, which was held at St. George's Hanover-square on Tuesday, were Bros. Sir F. Dixon-Hartland, Bart., M.P., Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., and Lady Sutherland, Bros. Sir Frederick Edridge, Sir John Puleston, Sir Eyre M. Shaw, and Sir Gabriel Goldney, Bart.

NEWSVENDORS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—We are glad to see that the Newsvendors' Benevolent Institution intends to commemorate the present jubilee of the Queen's reign by placing the entire donations received during the year to the Royal Victoria Pension Fund, inaugurated by the Queen in 1887, for the benefit of the widows of newsvendors. The festival will be held on Wednesday, April 23rd, at the Holborn Restaurant, and Lord Crewe has kindly consented to preside.

THE GREATEST RAILWAY TRAVELLER IN THE WORLD.—At Birmingham on Wednesday the presentation of a purse of 100 guineas and an address was made to Guard Jenne, described as the greatest railway traveller in the world. Jenne had been in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company for 40 years, and had travelled upwards of four million miles. During the whole of his career he never had an accident. The address was signed by several noblemen and many prominent gentlemen.

WHILE A King's Cross and Camberwell Green omnibus was proceeding along the Gray's Inn-road on Tuesday night and was close by the King's Cross Metropolitan Station, the axle-tree broke and the outside passengers were thrown violently into the roadway. The injured were conveyed to the Royal Free Hospital close by and had their wounds dressed, one of their number—Bro. W. J. Fitch, P.M., Sec. 443, P. Prov. G.D. Herts—being so seriously hurt about the head that it was found necessary to detain him; the others, however, were enabled to return to their homes.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.—There is every reason to believe that the claims of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund will be brought before all the Masonic lodges in the Metropolis as the meetings are held. The initiation of this development is to be credited to the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127, whose members, at the suggestion of Bro. Oscar Barrett, collected 105 shillings which were sent to the office of the *Daily Telegraph*, through Bro. Harry Nicholls. This example was speedily followed by the Doric and Warner Lodges, numbered 933 and 2257 respectively.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ARRAN left Dublin Castle for London on Sunday last, on the conclusion of their visit to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess Cadogan. Bro. the Earl and Countess of Portarlington have also arrived in town from the Irish capital. Bro. Viscount Wolsley, we are happy to say, has reached such a stage of convalescence that he has been able to visit Brighton in order to recruit his strength. We are sorry to hear that the condition of Bro. the Earl of Harwicke is such as to cause the gravest anxiety to his friends. His lordship, it will be remembered, was Prov. Grand Master of Cambridgeshire for about 19 years, having been appointed to that office in 1872, and having resigned in 1891.

THROUGH FIRE AND WATER.—The disastrous accident to the Orient liner, s.s. Orotova, which sank in Tilbury Docks whilst coaling on the 14th December, 1896, unfortunately entailing the loss by drowning of seven men, will be fresh in the remembrance of our readers. The vessel was raised on the 21st December, 1896, having been eight days under water. While, of course, a great proportion of the contents were ruined, several hundred bottles of "Johannis" water—all of which were loose and not in cases—in the vessel, were found to be in excellent condition and as lively as when bottled. We have often heard of "Johannis" going successfully through fire and opening crisply, clearly, and sparkingly in the blaze of the tropics, but this is the first time we have heard of it going through water as well. One, if not two, other natural waters have achieved a fair amount of success in the United Kingdom. "Johannis" has met with great success. We can but conclude that where all other things are equal, great success is due to the superior excellence of "Johannis" over its rivals.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York were present at the private dinner which was given at the Imperial Institute on Monday to Dr. Nansen and Lieut. Scott-Hansen. Among the other guests were Lord Belhaven and Sturton, the Earl of Scarborough, Bro. Lord Loch, Sir G. Baden-Powell, Bro. Sir Leopold McClintock, Bro. Sir Frederick Abel, the Hon. George Curzon, Bro. Admiral Markham, and Sir Clements Markham, who presided as Chairman. Afterwards the party adjourned to the Royal Albert Hall to the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, the Duchess of York being also present. The vast hall was crowded, and Dr. Nansen read a paper recording his experiences during his recent expedition. When the applause which greeted the explorer at the close of his address was over, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales rose, and, in a few graceful words, presented, on behalf of the Royal Geographical Society, Dr. Nansen with the special gold medal which had been struck in his honour, and to Lieut. Scott-Hansen a silver replica of the same. A vote of thanks to the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York for honouring the Society with their presence brought the proceedings to a close, the meeting then breaking up.